August 31, 2019

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**paradise**

**A FLUTE AND PIANO CONCERT IN KINGSTON JAMAICA**

Seven Pillars and the Edna Manley College of Music presents: PARADISE on Saturday, August 31, at 6pm at Vera Moody Concert Hall in Kingston, Jamaica. Join flutist, Melissa-Kay Grey, and pianist, Dr. Aleksandra Vojcic for a special evening exploring the vibrant colors of rhythm, tone, and interpretation which create your paradise. Repertoire includes the bold heat of Shulamit Ran’s Birds of Paradise, contrasted with the romantic, Legende by Godard. Other composers include Bach, Schulhoff, and a premiere performance by Columbian composer, Carmen Marulanda.

**Melissa-Kay Grey** (B.M. flute, Winthrop University; M.M. flute, The University of Tennessee) is as an active musician and teaching artist. She has performed with ensembles including, Opera MODO, Arbor Opera, Andrews University Symphony Orchestra, and Dexter Orchestra, West Michigan Flute Orchestra, Michigan Flute Orchestra, Flute Song and her flute trio, Iridescent Flutes. Melissa has performed at the Florida Flute Association, Mid Atlantic Flute Convention, and Hampton Roads Flute Faire, winning the young artist competition (2010).

An advocate of contemporary music, she has commissioned, recorded and performed works for solo flute, and chamber ensembles. She has collaborated notable composers such as Grammy Award Winner Michael Daugherty, Frederick Isaac, and Carmen Marulanda. In addition to contemporary music, Melissa enjoys expanding her classical background by working with artists in jazz, latin, and reggae genres. Earlier this year, she recorded two songs with Grammy Nominated Producer, Mario Lawrence in Kingston Jamaica.

Currently, Melissa is the CEO and Executive Director of Seven Pillars (www.seven-pillars.org), and Artistic Director of the Interactive Flute Retreat (www.InteractiveFluteRetreat.com).

**Aleksandra Vojčić** (B.M., M.M. piano, The Juilliard School; Ph.D. in Music theory, The Graduate Center, CUNY) is a former faculty member at Juilliard (1996-2007) and currently Associate Professor at The University of Michigan where she is also teaches the doctoral seminar for pianists and is on the Chamber Music Faculty.  Her primary research interests are rhythm and meter, focusing on the music of the long 20thcentury.

As a champion of 20th-century music she has premiered numerous works.  Ms. Vojčić has been a piano soloist with the Belgrade Philharmonic, the National Repertory Orchestra, New Juilliard Ensemble, Colby Symphony Orchestra, Juilliard Chamber Orchestra, and the Josip Slavenski String Orchestra. New York performance venues have included Steinway Hall, Kosciuszko Foundation, Alice Tully Hall, and MoMa Summergarden. She has presented lectures and papers in the UK, Lithuania, Austria, Serbia, and the United States and published in *Perspectives of New Music*, with Cambridge University Press, Oxford University press, and others. Her recordings include *Heavenly Lullabies* and *D'Divaz*. She was featured in an award-winning Swiss documentary *Yugodivas* and appeared in broadcasts on WNYC, KAJX, PGP RTB.

Dr. Vojcic and Miss Grey are board members of Seven Pillars, a non-profit aimed to connect musicians by exploring the beauty of music through cross-cultural collaborations. [www.seven-pillars.org](http://www.seven-pillars.org)

In addition to the concert, Dr. Vojcic and Miss Grey will conduct a Master Class, August 30 10-12 noon.

For additional information and photos visit seven-pillars.org