

2019

## Bluff Series Continues to Captivate Audiences

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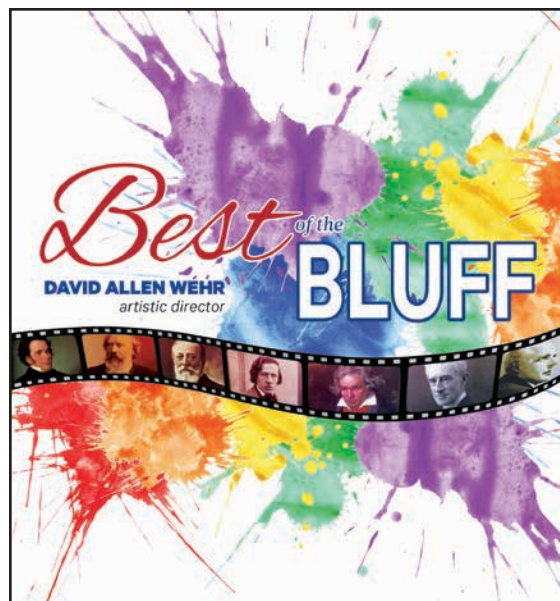
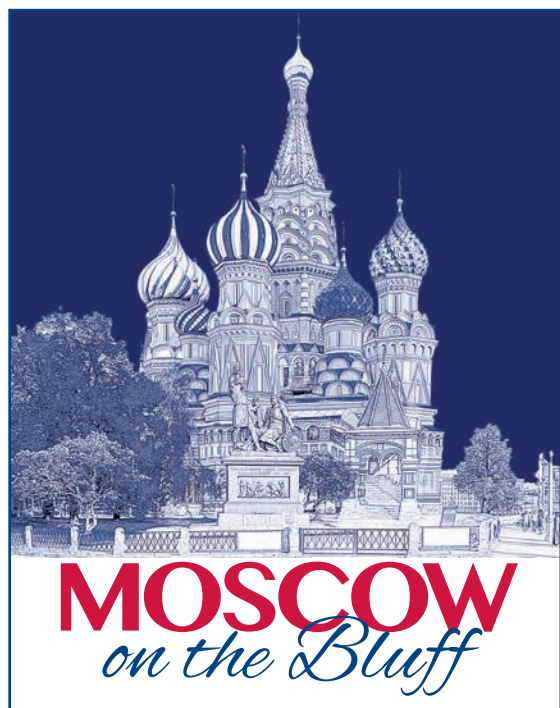
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The 2018–19 academic year has been another successful year for David Allen Wehr and his *Bluff Series*. This past year’s theme of Russian music, dubbed *Moscow on the Bluff*, has been one of the most successful, certainly in terms of the level of extraordinary musicianship, but also in terms of audience attendance. Many of the five concerts in the series were sold out, while the others were at near-capacity.

This season, Wehr polled the audience members, asking them to submit their favorite pieces that have been performed over the past 16 seasons. (Incidentally, that list comprises nearly 300 individual works!) For both the 2019–20 and 2020–21 seasons, he intends to use these audience suggestions as a basis upon which to present *Best of the Bluff*, a de facto “greatest hits” compilation of music. As always, each concert will feature many of the Mary Pappert School of Music’s extremely talented faculty, as well as internationally-known musicians and guest artists.

*Best of the Bluff* will kick off on Sunday, July 28 at 3:00 p.m. and will feature jazz pianist Joe Utterback, vocalist Kelley Krepin DeFade, Mike Tomaro on saxophone, and Bill Purse on bass guitar for *Blues and Ballads at the Movies*. Wehr will serve as the “opening act” with classical favorites by Beethoven, Chopin, and Schumann. Repertoire will include Beethoven’s *Pathétique* and *Moonlight* piano sonatas, as well as sonatas for cello and piano, Brahms’ string sextets, Fauré’s “Dolly” Suite, and Saint-Saëns’ *Carnival of the Animals* with Duquesne President, Ken Gormley, as narrator.

“As in past seasons, I am very grateful to our loyal audience, who have shared with my colleagues and me our adventures through music both familiar and new. I was delighted with the robust response to our audience poll and hope that there will be something for everyone in the coming two seasons.”

Full programming and personnel for *Best of the Bluff* with season ticket renewals is now available. For more information, visit [duq.edu/BluffSeries](http://duq.edu/BluffSeries). ■

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