

## Upcoming Events at the University Center for the Arts

April 13—23—**Theatre: *Endgame* by Samuel Beckett**  
University Theatre—see website for exact dates and times.

Tuesday, April 19—**Art: Tasteful Tuesdays Series**  
4:30—5:30 p.m., University Art Museum—FREE

April 19—20—**Spring Opera Scenes**  
7:30 p.m. each night, Organ Recital Hall—FREE

Thursday, April 21—**Music: Concert Band and Concert Orchestra Concert**  
7:30 p.m., Griffin Concert Hall—FREE

April 22—23—**Spring Dance Concert**  
Friday at 8 p.m., Saturday at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m., University Dance Theatre

Tuesday, April 26 and Wednesday, April 27—**Music: University Symphony Orchestra Concert, Festival of the Excess, Part I**  
7:30 p.m., Griffin Concert Hall

Thursday, April 28—**Creative Writing Reading Series**  
7:30 p.m., University Art Museum—FREE

Friday, April 29—**Combined Choral Concert, Part I**  
**Special Guests the Brigham Young University Singers**  
7:30 p.m., Griffin Concert Hall

Saturday, April 30—**Music: Combined Choral Concert, Part II**  
7:30 p.m., Griffin Concert Hall

FREE Student Recitals

See [www.CSUSchooloftheArts.com](http://www.CSUSchooloftheArts.com) for Student Recital Schedule

**Colorado State University**  
SCHOOL OF THE ARTS

event calendar • e-newsletter registration

**[www.CSUSchooloftheArts.com](http://www.CSUSchooloftheArts.com)**

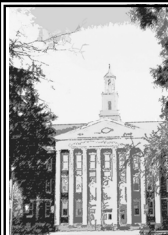
Tickets: (970) 491-ARTS (2787)  
[www.CSUArtsTickets.com](http://www.CSUArtsTickets.com)

Information: (970) 491-5529

Meet Me at the UCA  
Season "Green" Sponsor



Thank you for your continued support



COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY  
SCHOOL OF THE ARTS  
MEET ME AT THE UCA  
SPRING 2011 CONCERT SEASON

## *Virtuoso Series Concert* *Aldo Ragone, Piano*



Monday, April 18, 2011, 7:30 p.m.  
Organ Recital Hall, University Center for the Arts

**Colorado State University**  
SCHOOL OF THE ARTS

# Program

Chorale	Bach-Bauer
“Jesus bleibe meine Freude”	
Chorale	Bach-Busoni
“Nun komm’ der Heide Heiland”	
Third Sonata, op. 23	A. Scriabin
1. Drammatico	
2. Allegretto	
3. Andante	
4. Presto con fuoco	

## *Intermission*

Chromatic Fantasy & Fugue in d minor	J. S. Bach
3 Preludes	George Gershwin
Bachianas Brasileiras n. 4—Suite	H. Villa-Lobos
1. Preludio	
2. Coral	
3. Aria	
4. Dansa	

*Please join us outside the Organ Recital Hall after the performance for a reception.*

# Performer Biography

Italian pianist Aldo Ragone's mind and soul are devoted to communicating the complexity and beauty of life through the intricate, sensuous language of music. He is an astonishing pianist with an uncanny ability to converse with the great composers, and then mesmerize audiences with their creations. With "a high quality sound, without surrendering to blind virtuosity," (The Southern Gazette), Ragone thrills audiences around the world with a repertoire ranging from Bach to Villa Lobos, Franck to Dallapiccola, Chopin to Scriabin. "He possesses a quality which I consider fundamental in a contemporary artist: curiosity and the desire to discover new and unusual compositions." (Massimiliano Damerini, concert pianist, Italy) But the desire for the discovery is only part of the fervor. Ragone's world is not complete until the discovery is polished, perfected, and performed. With "his style, characterized by good taste and passion, he embodies an exceptional mix of perfect technique and richness of artistic invention" (Pavel Gililov, concert pianist, Germany). Indeed, Ragone has earned the respect and admiration of great contemporary pianists who agree with his mentor Aldo Ciccolini, that his is "an unmistakable gift".

Aldo Ragone brings a unique synthesis of European and American traditions to his life as an artist. Graduating from the Conservatory of Santa Cecilia in Rome under the guidance of Giuseppe Scotese, he continued his studies in other significant piano schools of Europe, including the Cini Foundation in Venice where he worked principally with Italian master Eugenio Bagnoli, a pupil of Alfredo Casella, and was awarded a three-year full scholarship. Perhaps his most significant study was with the internationally renowned Italian pianist Aldo Ciccolini, who remains his mentor.

In 2007 Aldo Ragone earned a doctoral degree in Piano Performance with Russian pianist

Larissa Dedova, a pupil of Lev Oborin, at the University of Maryland, College Park, where he taught piano on a Teaching Assistantship from 2003 to 2006. The core of his dissertation was the performance of the Ten Piano Sonatas and the 24 Preludes opus 11 by Alexander Scriabin. As a result of his commitment to Scriabin's music, Raisa Scriabine, grandniece of the great Russian composer, invited him to perform at the Russian Embassy in Washington DC on the Scriabin Memorial Day, April 27, 2006. In Fall 2008, Mr. Ragone earned the Artist Diploma in Piano Performance at the University of Denver, where he studied, on a two-year full scholarship, piano with Theodor Lichtmann and Steven Mayer, and chamber music with Colorado Symphony Orchestra's Concertmaster, Yumi Hwang-Williams, and violinist Linda Wang.

Ragone's credits further include study at the Ecole Normale de Musique Alfred Cortot in Paris, where he received his performance diploma with unanimous accolades of the jury, and two scholarships by the government of Luxembourg for international master classes at the City of Luxembourg with Evgenij Moguilevski in 1999 and Pavel Gililov in 2001. He has also performed in master classes for many important artists and pedagogues including American pianists Andre Watts and Ann Schein, and Russian pianist Tigran Alikhanov, director of Moscow Conservatory. While in Colorado, he was granted a scholarship at the Aspen Festival for study with Rita Sloan.

Mr. Ragone has also distinguished himself in national and international competitions. He has won nineteen awards, with eight first prizes. Among them, top prizes at the International Piano Competition of Castellana in 1999 and at the National Piano Competition of Brindisi in 1996. He also won prizes at the International Piano Competitions in Marsala in 1999, Barletta and Monopoli in 2000. In 2000 he won the Albert Roussel Prize at the International Piano Competition Roma 2000 and the Special Prize for the best performance of a modern work at the International Piano Competition Florestano Rossomandi. In June 2004, he was a finalist at the International Piano Competition Adilja Alieva in France. In the same month the Italian Cultural Society of Washington DC awarded him with the "Young Artist Award" for his artistic achievements. In 2007 he was selected to join the PHI KAPPA PHI Honor Society as one of the top students at the University of Maryland.

Aldo Ragone has delighted audiences in such Italian cities as Rome, Venice, Genoa, Turin, Naples, Siena, and many others, performing for music associations, such as Fondazione Giorgio Cini of Venice, Museum of Musical Instruments and La Scaletta Theatre of Rome, Il Coretto of Bari, Aragonese Castle of Otranto, the Conservatory of Music "Tito Schipa" of Lecce, Thalberg Hall and Aldo Ciccolini Hall of Naples, Carlo Felice Theatre of Genoa, Vespasiano Theatre in Rieti, and in "Music at Piazza Colonna" in Rome and "Rassegna di Musica Contemporanea" (Contemporary Music Review) in the Theatre of Latina. In a highlight of his performing career in Italy, Mr. Ragone performed the Second Piano Concerto of Sergei Rachmaninov at the Alfonso Rendano Theatre of Cosenza, which was broadcast on the Italian national T. V. channel "Cinque Stelle".

Aldo Ragone made his American debut at the Kennedy Center in Washington, DC in 2003 in the Millennium Stage Series. Subsequently, he has been a recitalist at the Gildenhorn Recital Hall of the Clarice Smith Center for the Performing Arts at the University of Maryland, College Park, the Newman Center for the Arts at The University of Denver, at Regis University in Denver and in the "Sanford Concert Series" in Maryland. He has performed to acclaim in the Washington DC metropolitan area at the historic Dacor-Bacon House, the Brazilian-American Cultural Institute, the Italian Cultural Society, the Washington Arts Club, the Strathmore Hall Mansion, in Virginia at the Lyceum, the Fairfax Town Hall Series and the Rappahannock Series and in Baltimore at the Old St. Paul Church Music Series. In 2008 he played Saint-Saëns Piano Concerto n. 5 with the Denver Philharmonic Orchestra and in 2009 the rarely performed Scriabin's Piano Concerto with Niwot Timberline Symphony in Colorado.

His international appearances include the "Sommerclassics Musik Festival" at Saffig, Germany, the "Bloomsbury International Recital Series" in London, UK, and in Italy the prestigious "Festival Pontino", the "Festival Internazionale di Mezza Estate" at Tagliacozzo, the "International Music Festival Beethoven" at Sutri and the "Pettrassi Youth Chamber" Orchestra at Zagarolo.

Besides his next engagements in Italy at the Liszt Festival in Albano, at the Rimini International Piano Festival and many others, Dr. Ragone will make a tour in 2011 in the U.S.A. with recitals, masterclasses and the performance of Rachmaninov Second Piano Concert with the Denver Philharmonic Orchestra.

In 2009 and 2010 the government of the United States of America awarded him a visa for extraordinary ability in the field of music.

From 2007 to 2009 Aldo Ragone taught piano at Regis University in Denver, Colorado.