Damian Woetzel

Damian Woetzel is the seventh president of The Juilliard School. Since retiring in 2008 from a 20-year career as a principal dancer with New York City Ballet, Woetzel has taken on multiple roles in arts leadership, including artistic director of the Vail Dance Festival since 2007 and director of the Aspen Institute Arts Program (2011-18). As a director, choreographer, and producer, his recent projects include DEMO at the Kennedy Center; Spaces by Wynton Marsalis for Jazz at Lincoln Center; Kennedy Center Honors tributes to Natalia Makarova, Patricia McBride, and Carmen De Lavallade; an arts salute to Stephen Hawking for the World Science Festival; and two Turnaround Arts performances at the White House and the first White House Dance Series performance, all hosted by Michelle Obama. He has collaborated on numerous performances and initiatives with Yo-Yo Ma, including the Silk Road Connect program in New York City public schools. In 2009, Woetzel became the founding director of the Jerome Robbins Foundation’s New Essential Works (NEW), a five-year program that initiated grants to support the production of 35 new dance works. In 2009, President Obama appointed Woetzel to the President’s Committee on the Arts and Humanities, and he served throughout the Obama administration. Woetzel holds a Master in Public Administration degree from Harvard’s Kennedy School of Government and has been a visiting lecturer at Harvard Law School. He received the Harvard Arts Medal in 2015, and is a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

A Conversation Series
With Nicholas Britell

Juilliard
The Juilliard School presents

A Conversation Series
With Nicholas Britell

An Evening Moderated by Damian Woetzel

Tuesday, November 12, 2019
Studio 543 • 5:30pm

President Damian Woetzel moderates a conversation with composer, pianist, and Creative Associate Nicholas Britell (Pre-College ’99) about his career and how he has bridged his foundation in classical music with composing for film and television. Using his work on the HBO series Succession and the feature film If Beale Street Could Talk as case studies, Britell will also model his scoring process.

Nicholas Britell

Composer, pianist, and Juilliard Creative Associate Nicholas Britell (Pre-College ‘99, piano) is known for his scores for Barry Jenkins’ If Beale Street Could Talk, for which he received his second Academy Award nomination as well as BAFTA and Critics Choice nominations, and Adam McKay’s Vice. In 2016, Britell wrote the score for Jenkins’ best picture Oscar winner Moonlight, for which he received his first Academy Award, plus Golden Globe, and Critics Choice nominations as well as the 2016 Hollywood Music in Media Award for best original score (dramatic feature). In 2015, Britell wrote the score for McKay’s The Big Short. Britell’s music also featured in Steve McQueen’s best picture Oscar winner 12 Years a Slave. For television, Britell scored HBO’s series Succession, for which he won an Emmy for original main title theme and the Hollywood Music in Media Award for best original score. Britell is a founding member of L.A. Dance Project and chairman of the board of the New York-based ensemble Decoda, the first-ever affiliate ensemble of Carnegie Hall. Britell is part of Esa-Pekka Salonen’s newly formed creative collective “brain trust” as Salonen becomes music director of the San Francisco Symphony. Upcoming projects include Jenkins’ Underground Railroad series and a new Adam McKay HBO pilot as well as Benjamin Millepied’s Carmen, a reimagining of one of the world’s most celebrated operas. Britell’s most recent work is the score of the Netflix film The King, starring Timothée Chalamet.

An Evening With Caroline Shaw

Thursday, November 14, 2019
Studio 543 • 5:30pm

Creative Associate Nicholas Britell will return to Juilliard for a dialogue with composer, vocalist, violinist, and Creative Associate Caroline Shaw about composing across genres including chamber music, dance, film, opera, and more.

Caroline Shaw

Juilliard Creative Associate Caroline Shaw is a New York-based vocalist, violinist, composer, and producer who performs in solo and collaborative projects. In 2013 she became the youngest recipient of the Pulitzer Prize for music for Partita for 8 Voices, written for the Grammy-winning Roomful of Teeth, of which she is a member. Recent commissions include works for Renée Fleming with Inon Barnatan, Dawn Upshaw with Sō Percussion and Gil Kaish, Orchestra of St. Luke’s with John Lithgow, Dover Quartet, TENET, the Crossing, Mendelssohn Club of Philadelphia, Calidore Quartet, Brooklyn Rider, Baltimore Symphony, and Roomful of Teeth with A Far Cry. The 2018-19 season saw premieres by pianist Jonathan Biss with the Seattle Symphony, Anne Sofie von Otter with Philharmonia Baroque, Los Angeles Philharmonic, and Juilliard 415. Her film scores include Erica Fae’s To Keep the Light, Josephine Decker’s Madeline’s Madeline, and Maureen Towey’s short 8th Year of the Emergency. She has produced for Kanye West (The Life of Pablo; Ye and Nas (NASIR) and has contributed to records by the National and Arcade Fire’s Richard Reed Parry. Getting to sing three-part harmony with Sara Bareilles and Ben Folds at the Kennedy Center was pretty much the bees’ knees and elbows. Shaw has studied at Rice, Yale, and Princeton, and teaches at New York University.

Juilliard’s creative enterprise programming, including the Creative Associates program, is generously supported by Jody and John Arnhold.