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CAMPUS NEWS

GWU Distinguished Artist Series Presents Trombonist John Ilika and Pianist Polina Khatsko

BY OFFICE OF UNIVERSITY COMMUNICATIONS ON FEBRUARY 9, 2021



Program Held on Feb. 21 in Blanton Auditorium with Limited Seating

BOILING SPRINGS, N.C.—The Gardner-Webb University Distinguished Artist Series will feature trombonist John Ilika with pianist Polina Khatsko in the first concert of the spring semester. Presented by the GWU School of Performing and Visual Arts in collaboration with the Alfred and Shirley Wampler Caudill Fund, the program will be on Feb. 21 at 3 p.m. in Hamrick Hall's Blanton Auditorium. Because of COVID-19 social distancing guidelines, seating is limited and available on a first come, first served basis.

1" by Frank Gulino, "Romance Op. 21" by Axel Jorgensen, "Concerto per Trombone" by G. Christoph Wagenseil, and "New Orleans" by Eugene Bozza. In addition to the Sunday concert, Ilika will also do a masterclass for GWU low brass students on Feb 20.

Ilika joined the artist faculty at the University of North Carolina School of the Arts (UNCSA) in 2010.

He has served as principal trombone with the North Carolina Symphony since January 2001. He has

held several other principal positions and has been a regular substitute with the Philadelphia

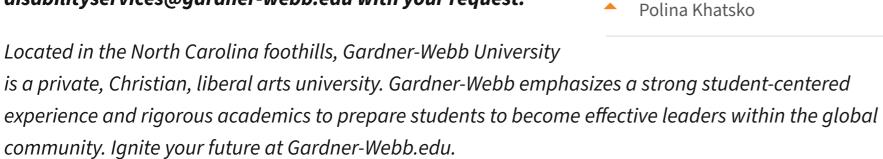
Ilika will perform on alto, tenor and bass trombones. The program includes "Trombone Sonata No.

In 1981, he earned a degree in music education (K-12) from Luther College in Decorah, Iowa. He completed further studies in 1985 with Charles Vernon at the Pennsylvania College of Performing Arts. In addition, he has 15 years of free-lancing experience around the Philadelphia area.

A native of Belarus, Khatsko has established herself both as an active performer and a dedicated teacher. Currently, she is a staff pianist at UNCSA and Wake Forest University School of Music, as well as a sought-after freelancer. She has served on the piano faculty of the University of the Northern Iowa, the University of Michigan preparatory department and the Leipzig Summer Piano Institute. Khatsko was on the collaborative piano staff for the International Music Academy in Pilsen, Czech Republic; the Cambridge International String Academy, England; the University of Michigan String department; and is an annual collaborative pianist for the Sphinx Competition. She earned her master's and doctoral degrees from the University of Michigan as a student of Arthur Greene.

Orchestra since 1989.

Auxiliary aids will be made available to persons with disabilities upon request 10 working days prior to the event. Please call (704) 406-4270 or email disabilityservices@gardner-webb.edu with your request.





Jackie Bridges Assistant Director of University Communications, (704) 406-2542 jbridges9@gardner-webb.edu **RECENT NEWS** March 2022: ...In Like a Lion February 28, 2022 COVID cases continue to decline! February 21, 2022 February Updates and Changes February 2, 2022 Weather Update: 2 Hour Delay January 17, 2022 January 2022: The Unfolding Work of Destiny January 17, 2022 **NEWS CATEGORIES Select Category**

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