

**Matthew Lorenz is a growing artistic presence** in the Grand Forks community and the Midwest at large. Matthew's performance experience as a pianist extends from Bismarck, ND to Chicago, IL and beyond: he has collaborated with a wide variety of musicians, such as the award-winning artist San Francisco Bay Area pianist Sarah Cahill. His recent performances include residencies in East Asia: alongside groups of Japanese students in Kanuma, Tochigi, Japan as a part of UND's Red River Trio, and as a part of the UND Piano Ensemble in Shanghai, China. At the 2015 'fresh inc.' festival, hosted by the Fifth House Ensemble in Kenosha, WI, he engaged with other young performers and composers of contemporary music. As well, he performs and rehearses extensively with other music students and music faculty at the University of North Dakota (Matthew made his debut as a 2<sup>nd</sup>-year student performing in the US premier of Israeli composer Eliezer Elper's triple concerto for Piano, Trumpet, and Flute with UND faculty).

A recent graduate of the University of North Dakota, Matthew studied piano performance with Dr. Nariaki Sugiura as well as received a second degree in mathematics. Beginning piano lessons at the age of 9 with Susan Nagel, he was a performer throughout high school in Fargo, North Dakota and won several local and state competitions. While at the university, he continued to refine his technique through performance and competition: most notably, he has had several recent concerto performances Franz Liszt's *'Totentanz'* with the Bismarck-Mandan Symphony Orchestra, the Greater Grand Forks Symphony Orchestra, and the Bemidji Symphony Orchestra. As well, he has received training from a wide variety of pianists, either in a master class setting at the University or elsewhere, playing for artists and professors from all around the world such as Edward Auer (Indiana University), Peter Bithell (Guild Hall), Pavlina Dokovska (Mannes College), Lydia Artymiw (University of Minnesota), Jani Parsons (Latitude 49 ensemble, MI), Takeo Tchinai (Japan), Yoonie Han (Steinway Artist, NY), Mihaela Tomi (Mannheim, Germany), Ning-Wu Du (Xinghai Conservatory, China), Laura Loewen (University of Manitoba), and others.

After earning several scholarships to study at UND, Matthew has also approached music as a study – a human endeavor and cultural phenomenon. First, his study has included the composition of music, for a wide variety of standard and non-standard ensembles. After beginning the study of composition in 2011, Matthew has since performed several of his pieces and is currently writing in varied mediums. Occasionally composing for standard ensembles or utilizing experimental mediums and improvisation; for example, the use of cell phones to create an 'interactive sound environment' (his piece *'cellular,'* created in collaboration with colleague Ryan King, was premiered in 2016, and has since been performed in the United States and China). Second, Matthew has informed his musical studies with a wide variety of outside disciplines, such as mathematics, philosophy, and Russian literature. Most recently, he has completed research focusing on the experiences of learning and relationship during musical improvisation in private music lessons. Matthew lets his research and study directly impact his life and work, whether it is as a performer and collaborator, an instructor of piano lessons, or as a summer youth theater camp pianist and director.