Kennesaw State University
College of the Arts
School of Music

presents

2014
Kennesaw State
Festival of New Music

Featured Guest Composer
Chen Yi

Monday, February 17 - Friday, February 21, 2014
Dear Friends,

On behalf of everyone at Kennesaw State University, we are excited to welcome you to the 2014 Kennesaw State Festival of New Music, our third festival honoring the music of our time.

Rules, as the saying goes, were meant to be broken. There are artists who discard the idea of traditional boundaries and instead choose to explore the sounds that move them, often through embracing innovative ideas that blend together varied musical or cultural traditions. As the world of music continues to evolve, artists continually find new ways for their voices to be heard amidst the growing landscape. The 2014 KSFNM proudly presents an impressive slate of exceptional artists, whose creative approaches to music making boldly lead us into new territory.

The KSFNM musicians challenge artistic boundaries in their work, as displayed in Chen Yi’s blending of traditional Chinese folk culture with western music, Maria Schneider’s exploration of the relationships between jazz and avant-garde concert hall genres, and Simone Dinnerstein and Tift Merritt’s melding of their respective classical and pop aesthetics. In addition to these guest artists, the week’s performances will highlight our talented students and faculty, including violinist Helen Kim who will perform the world premiere of Chinese Rap, a violin concertino composed by Chen Yi and commissioned by the KSU School of Music with the support of our partners in the Confucius Institute.

A festival of this kind creates an interesting opportunity to explore how music impacts other areas of our lives. To that end, we have developed class visits, lectures, master classes, and other residency activities in partnership with our colleagues in the Gender and Women’s Studies program, Asian Studies, American Studies, and the Music and Entertainment Business Program. These residency activities expose our students and community to new, developing trends in the art form, and provide special access to the artists in an educational setting. Additionally, our music students gain the invaluable experience of interacting first hand with world-class artists.

Over a five-day period, we will present four concerts, thirteen residency activities, and one world premiere. We are delighted to give this music an audience, and hope you enjoy the opportunity to participate in this unique event. Thank you for joining us for this celebration as we explore music that challenges definition and breaks barriers.

David Daly and Laurence Sherr
Co-Artistic Directors

Concert Schedule

KSU Wind Ensemble
Tuesday, February 18, 2014  |  8 p.m.

KSU Symphony Orchestra, Chamber Singers, and Men’s Ensemble
Wednesday, February 19, 2014  |  8 p.m.

KSU Jazz Ensemble I performs the music of Maria Schneider
Thursday, February 20, 2014  |  8 p.m.

Simone Dinnerstein and Tift Merritt in NIGHT: an evening with Simone Dinnerstein and Tift Merritt
Friday, February 21, 2014  |  8 p.m.
KSFNM 2014 RESIDENCY SCHEDULE

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2014
Open rehearsals – Chen Yi with Orchestra and Chamber Singers
   Orchestra: 11am-12:00 pm in Morgan Hall, Chamber Singers: 12-12:50 pm in Brooker Hall
Open rehearsal – Chen Yi with Wind Ensemble
   2:10-3:10 pm, Morgan Hall
Composition masterclass with Chen Yi
   4-6 pm, Wilson Building Room 119

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2014
East and West: Experiences in Cultural/Educational Exchange Programs
   Lecture Presentation with Chen Yi
   Presented with the KSU Confucius Institute
   1-1:50 pm, Morgan Hall

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2014
Open rehearsals – Chen Yi with Orchestra and Chamber Singers
   Orchestra: 11am-12:20 pm in Morgan Hall, Chamber Singers: 12:20-12:50 pm in Brooker Hall
Tradition and Creation: Composing in My Own Voice
   Artist Meet and Greet, Lecture Presentation, and Q&A Session with Chen Yi
   Meet and Greet: 2-2:30 pm, Lecture and Q&A: 2:30-3:50 pm, Brooker Hall

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2014
Creative Women in Music and Art panel discussion
   Panelists: Tift Merritt, Simone Dinnerstein; Moderators: Laura Davis, Laurence Sherr
   Presented with the KSU Gender and Women’s Studies Program
   12:30-1:45 pm, University College Room 200
Skype Conversation with composer Maria Schneider
   Moderators: David Daly, Sam Skelton
   1-1:45 pm, Brooker Hall
Piano masterclass with Simone Dinnerstein
   2-3:15 pm, Brooker Hall

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2014
Bending Genre Boundaries, Artistic Entrepreneurship, Creating Music for Today’s World
   Artist Panel with Tift Merritt and Simone Dinnerstein
   11am-12:50pm, Brooker Hall

Kennesaw State University
Wind Ensemble

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2014  |  8 P.M.
Audrey B. and Jack E. Morgan, Sr. Concert Hall
at the Dr. Bobbie Bailey & Family Performance Center
Seventieth Concert of the 2013-14 Concert Season

JENNIFER MITCHELL (b. 1974)
Forge of Hephaestasus (2013)

Chen Yi (b. 1953)
Tu (2003)

CHRISTOPHER THEOFANIDIS (b. 1967)
*Concerto for Marimba and Wind Sinfonietta (2013)
    Prologue
    Allegro
    Semplice
    Vivace
    Aria

John Lawless, marimba
    *Georgia Premiere

FLORENT SCHMITT (1870-1958)
Dionysiaques, Opus 62 (1913/2011)
arr. Felix Hauswirth (b.1955)

David Thomas Kehler, conductor
David Thomas Kehler, conductor

David Kehler has served since 2009 as Director of Bands at Kennesaw State University where he oversees all aspects of the University’s band program and serving as Music Director and Conductor of the KSU Wind Ensemble. An advocate of new music, Professor Kehler has commissioned leading composers to write new works for wind ensemble, including Michael Markowski, Joel Puckett, James Stephenson, Christopher Theofanidis and an upcoming commission by Pulitzer Prize winner, Joseph Schwantner. In addition, the KSU Wind Ensemble has been featured on 90.1 FM (WABE- Atlanta public radio), and continues to garner praise from composers including Steven Bryant, Karel Husa, David Lang, David Maslanka, Scott McAllister, and Joel Puckett. In 2012, the KSU Wind Ensemble was a featured ensemble and hosted the Southern Division College Band Directors /National Band Association Conference and in 2013, was the winner of the 2013 American Prize for best Wind Ensemble/Concert Band performance. In addition to his ensemble responsibilities, Dr. Kehler teaches courses in instrumental conducting, wind literature and symphonic repertoire.

Previously, David Kehler served The University of Texas at Austin as a Graduate Conducting Associate receiving a Doctor of Musical Arts degree. From 2001-2009, Dr. Kehler served as Associate Conductor of America’s Premier Wind Band; The Dallas Wind Symphony where he was the director of the Dallas Wind Symphony International Fanfare Project. In addition, Dr. Kehler conducted the Dallas Wind Symphony throughout Texas, including the annual Labor Day Concert at the Dallas Arboretum, various Chautauqua festivals, holiday concerts, and a formal gala presented by the United States Armed Forces with all of the Joint Chiefs of Staff in attendance.

While in Texas, Dr. Kehler was also Founder and Conductor of the GDYO Wind Symphony, an ensemble affiliated with the Greater Dallas Youth Orchestras, Inc. During his ten years of service, the GDYO Wind Symphony established itself as one of the premier youth wind ensembles in the United States. They were a featured ensemble at the Texas Bandmasters Association/National Band Association Convention in San Antonio, Texas, and were heard internationally on “From the Top”, a syndicated radio program featuring the finest young classical musicians in the country. In addition, the GDYO Wind Symphony participated in exchange concerts with the Atlanta Youth Wind Symphony and performed with Jeff Nelson, former horn of the Canadian Brass. In the summer of 2008, the GDYO Wind Symphony embarked on an extensive two-week tour of China, performing at all of the major music conservatories throughout China and Hong Kong.

Previous university appointments were at Southern Methodist University, the University of Rhode Island, and Bay City Western High School, in Bay City, Michigan. Growing up in Michigan, Dr. Kehler received his Bachelor of Music and Master of Music degrees from Michigan State University. Professor Kehler is an active conductor and clinician throughout the United States, and has memberships in musical organizations including CBDNA, NBA, NAfME, Phi Beta Mu, GMEA and others.
John Lawless became Director of Percussion Studies at Kennesaw State University in 2004. Principal Timpanist of the Atlanta Opera since 1979, Mr. Lawless was appointed as Principal Timpanist with the Chattanooga Symphony and Opera Orchestra in 1986. Since 1978, Mr. Lawless has performed and recorded as an extra with the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra while maintaining a thriving freelance career as studio and pit percussionist.

A founding member of the Atlanta Percussion Trio, Mr. Lawless performs more than 600 school concerts a year for audiences totaling 300,000 annually. In 2004 the Atlanta Percussion Trio performed as concerto soloists with the Columbus Symphony Orchestra in “The Glory and the Grandeur” by Russell Peck.

A graduate of Georgia State University, Mr. Lawless’s teachers include Tom Float, Jack Bell, Cloyd Duff, Paul Yancich, Bill Wilder, and Mark Yancich. Mr. Lawless’s previous faculty appointments include those at Georgia State University, Clark Atlanta University, and West Georgia State University.

Composer Biographies

CHEN YI (b. 1953)

KSFNM 2014 Featured Guest Composer

Chen Yi, a Distinguished Professor at the University of Missouri-Kansas City Conservatory of Music and Dance and prolific composer and recipient of the prestigious Charles Ives Living Award from the American Academy of Arts and Letters (2001-04), blends Chinese and Western traditions, transcending cultural and musical boundaries. Through doing so, she serves as an ambassador to the arts, creating music that reaches a wide range of audiences, inspiring people with different cultural backgrounds throughout the world. She holds both a BA and MA in music composition from the Central Conservatory of Music in Beijing, and received her DMA from Columbia University in the City of New York, studying composition with Wu Zuqiang, Chou Wen-chung and Mario Davidovsky. She was elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences in 2005.

Chen Yi’s music has been commissioned by Yehudi Menuhin, Yo-Yo Ma, Evelyn Glennie, the Cleveland Orchestra, the BBC, the Seattle, Pacific, and Singapore Symphonies, the Brooklyn, New York, and Los Angeles Philharmonic, Sächsische Staatskapelle Dresden, the St. Paul Chamber Orchestra, Raschère Saxophone Quartet and Stuttgart Chamber Orchestra, Orchestra of St. Luke’s, and recorded on many labels, including BIS, New Albion, CRI, Teldec, Telarc, Albany, New World, Naxos, Quartz, Delos, Angel, Nimbus, and KIC.

Dr. Chen has received fellowships from the Guggenheim Foundation (1996) and the National Endowment for the Arts (1994), as well as the Lieberson Award from the American Academy of Arts and Letters (1996). Other honors include first prize in the Chinese National Composition Competition (1985), the Lili Boulanger Award from the National Women Composers Resource Center (1993), New York University’s Sorel Medal (1996), the CalArts/Alpert Award (1997), a Grammy Award (1999), the University of Texas Eddie Medora King Composition Prize (1999), the Adventurous Programming and Concert Music awards from ASCAP (1999 and 2001, respectively-
ly), the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center’s Elise Stoeger Award (2002), the Edgar Snow Memorial Fund’s Friendship Ambassador Award (2002), the Kauffman Award in Artistry/Scholarship from the UMKC Conservatory (2006), and honorary doctorates from Lawrence University in WI (2002), Baldwin-Wallace College in OH (2008), the University of Portland in OR (2009), and The New School University in NYC (2010).

Chen Yi was the first woman to receive a master’s degree in composition in China (June 1986) when she gave an evening concert of her orchestral works in Beijing, performed by the Central Philharmonic of China. She is also the first woman to give an evening multimedia orchestral concert in the US (for orchestra, choir, Chinese traditional instrumental soloists, dancers, and image projection – the Chinese Myths Cantata), which occurred during her 3-year residency with The Women’s Philharmonic and Chanticleer (May 1996), supported by Meet The Composer. She has given two more whole evening concerts of her orchestral and choral works presented by the China National Symphony Orchestra and Chorus in 2001 and 2008, and was appointed Changjiang Scholar Visiting Professor at the Beijing Central Conservatory by the China Education Ministry in 2006.

Since 2009, premieres of Ms. Chen’s works have included Septet, a mixed ensemble piece for Prism Saxophone Quartet and Music From China, Prelude and Fugue for the St. Paul Chamber Orchestra (MTC/ASOL Music Alive Residency), a duet From Old Peking Folklore for the Music Teachers’ Association of California Friends of Today, and Jing Marimba for the Zeltsman Marimba Festival. New commissions include a wind ensemble work, Dragon Rhyme, premiered by the Hartt School of Music Wind Ensemble at Carnegie Hall, a work for the San Francisco Girls Chorus and Cypress String Quartet, and a work for solo violin (in memory of her violin teacher Lin Yaoji) to be premiered at the China National Concert Hall. More recent premieres have included works for eighth blackbird, the Mid-America Competing Band Directors Association, the American Choral Directors Association, Singapore ACJC, Gustavus College Orchestra (MN), Central Bucks High School Choir (PA), and the Seattle Symphony.

Premieres from 2008 include a song cycle From the Path of Beauty for Chanticleer and the Shanghai String Quartet, Suite from China West for the Metropolitan Wind Symphony, Tunes from My Home for the Newstead Trio, a recorder concerto, Ancient Chinese Beauty, for Michala Petri, Concerto for Reeds for oboe, sheng, and chamber orchestra, Rhyme of Fire for the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra (commissioned by the BBC Proms and conducted by Leonard Slatkin), Woodwind Quintet No. 3 for the Eastman School of Music, and Prospect Overture for the China National Symphony Orchestra, commissioned by and premiered at the China National Center for the Performing Arts to celebrate the 2009 New Year in Beijing, conducted by Daniel Harding.

Important premieres in 2007 include Three Bagatelles from China West for flute and piano at Carnegie Hall (for the 21st Century project Meet The Composer flute book, Eight Visions), Tibetan Tunes for the New Pacific Trio (Barlow Endowment for Music Composition Commission Award), Looking at the Sea for the Peninsula Women’s Chorus, and China West Suite for Dennis Russell Davies and Maki Namekawa at the Ruhr Piano Festival in Germany. Other world premieres in 2005 and 2006 include Celebration for the Maryland Classic Youth Philharmonic, Spring in Dresden for Mira Wang and Sächsische Staatskapelle Dresden (co-commissioned by the NY Phil, premiered in Germany), the 2006 Pulitzer Prize Finalist Si Ji (Four Seasons) for the Cleveland Orchestra (a Roche Commission, premiered at the Lucerne Music

JENNIFER MITCHELL (b. 1974)

Jennifer Mitchell completed her Master’s in Music Composition at Georgia State University in 2007 after graduating Magna Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Music degree in Trombone Performance at GSU. She has written for the Georgia Youth Brass Band, the GSU Percussion Ensemble, the GSU Brass Ensemble, and was commissioned by the 2006 International Euphonium Institute for her “Celebration Fanfare”, written for antiphonal brass quintet and euphonium quartet. She received a commission from Colin Williams, principal trombone with the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra, for “Pneuma” (2006), written for trombone, double bass, and marimba. Ms. Mitchell’s “Bamboo Blossom” (2005) was chosen to be included on the vanity CD, *In With the New: Vol. 2*, a juried compilation released in 2006 by the GSU Student Chapter Society of Composers, Inc. This followed “In Memory of Jerry” (2002) for trombone quartet and “Subtle Reflection” (2003) for unaccompanied trombone, both chosen to be included on the vanity CD, *In With the New: Vol. 1*, released in late 2005.

In addition to composition, Ms. Mitchell instructs Music Theory and Aural Skills at Kennesaw State University. She currently performs with the award-winning Georgia Brass Band and the Cobb Symphony Orchestra, and can be heard playing trombone on *Traveling Without Memory*, the debut experimental ambient electronica album by Vancouver-based Gunshae.

Jennifer, aka “Little Jen,” also has been a DJ since 1994, performing throughout the East Coast with the biggest acts in electronic music. “Lullabye,” her first electronic music endeavor, was released by Sonic Soul Recordings in 1997 on *Cloudwatch: a Freeform Gathering*. She was voted DJ of the year in 1998 on the Sonic Soul website and Reader’s Choice: Atlanta’s Best DJ for 2006 in Atlanta’s Creative Loafing newspaper. She has been reviewed in such magazines as Urb, Elemental, and the Jive magazine website. In addition to her busy club schedule, she has performed multimedia pieces with Atlanta-based new music organizations Bent Frequency and Sonic Generator. Having completed numerous electronica remixes of a range of classical composers, Little Jen’s electronic excursions can be heard at Fringe, the Atlanta-based classical chamber music series. She can currently be heard DJing locally in numerous lounges, clubs and bistro in the Atlanta area.

Jennifer is a member of the Society of Composers, Inc. (SCI), the American Music Center (AMC) and the American Society of Composers, Authors, and Publishers (ASCAP).

For more information about Jennifer Mitchell, please visit the composer’s website at www.kennesaw.edu/music/jennifer_mitchell.shtml.

CHRISTOPHER THEOFANIDIS (b. 1967)

Christopher Theofanidis has had performances by many leading orchestras from around the world, including the London Symphony, the New York Philhar-
monic, the Philadelphia Orchestra, the Moscow Soloists, the National, Atlanta, Baltimore, St. Louis, Detroit Symphonies, and many others. He also served as Composer of the Year for the Pittsburgh Symphony during their 2006-2007 Season, for which he wrote a violin concerto for Sarah Chang.

Mr. Theofanidis holds degrees from Yale, the Eastman School of Music, and the University of Houston, and has been the recipient of the International Masterprize (hosted at the Barbican Centre in London), the Rome Prize, a Guggenheim Fellowship, six ASCAP Gould Prizes, a Fulbright Fellowship to France, a Tanglewood Fellowship, and the American Academy of Arts and Letters' Charles Ives Fellowship. In 2007 he was nominated for a Grammy for best composition for his chorus and orchestra work, *The Here and Now*, based on the poetry of Rumi. His orchestral concert work, *Rainbow Body*, has been one of the most performed new orchestral works of the last ten years, having been performed by over 100 orchestras internationally.

Mr. Theofanidis' has recently written a ballet for the American Ballet Theatre, a work for the Orpheus Chamber Orchestra as part of their 'New Brandenburg' series, and he currently has two opera commissions for the San Francisco and Houston Grand Opera companies. He has a long-standing relationship with the Atlanta Symphony, and has just had his first symphony premiered and recorded with that orchestra. He has served as a delegate to the US-Japan Foundation's Leadership Program and is a former faculty member of the Peabody Conservatory and the Juilliard School. He currently teaches at Yale University.

FELIX HAUSWIRTH (b. 1955)

Felix Hauswirth earned his degree in conducting and theory at the Lucerne Conservatory of Music in Switzerland. In 1983, he was guest professor for one semester at the University of Michigan in Flint, USA. In 1985, he was appointed professor of conducting at the Basel Conservatory, Switzerland.

In 1983, Mr. Hauswirth founded the Swiss National Youth Wind Ensemble and conducted this ensemble until 1993. As guest conductor and with his own ensembles, he has performed in several countries in Europe, Asia, South Africa, Japan, Australia, and South America and in several places in the USA and Canada. He has conducted many recordings and broadcasts with different ensembles and has received acclaim from conductors and composers from Europe, United States and Asia for his CD’s.

As clinician he is regularly invited all over the world. From 1998 - 2011 Mr. Hauswirth has been head of the wind band conducting course at the Bundes-Academy in Trossingen, Germany and from 2000 - 2009 he taught at the Istituto Superiore Europeo Bandistico (I.S.E.B.) in Trento, Italy.

From 1993 – 2000, Mr. Hauswirth was the Artistic Director for the International Festival for Contemporary Music in Uster, Switzerland. He was President of the World Association for Symphonic Bands and Ensembles (WASBE) from 1997 - 2001. He is currently the conductor of the Baden-Württemberg Youth Wind Ensemble, Germany and the Zug Wind Orchestra, Switzerland.

He is the author of several books, mainly on conducting and on wind ensemble literature.

In December 2009 Felix Hauswirth received in Chicago the “Midwest Clinic International Award“ in Recognition of Outstanding Contributions and Dedication to Instrumental Music Education.
Personnel

**CONDUCTOR**
David Thomas Kehler

**FLUTE/PICCOLO**
Catherine Flinchum
Madison Hall
Catherine Rothery

**OBOE / ENGLISH HORN**
Andrew Connard
Alex Sifuentes

**CLARINET / BASS CLARINET**
Katherine Cook
Jonathan Itkin
Kadie Johnston
Alyssa Jones
Chris Malloy
Mudussir Quraishi
Ryan Tang
Gus Todd

**BASSOON / CONTRA BASSOON**
Jordan Alfredson
Sarah Fluker
Shelby Jones
Danika Mahon
Dustin Price

**SAXOPHONE**
Nathan Hollis
Benjamin Humkey
Brittany Jarrett
Steven LaRose
Tommy Kieffer
Michael Opitz
Kwame Paige
Brandon Radaker

**HORN**
David Anders
Kristen Arvold
Nathan Bedgood
Sarah Jarrett

**TRUMPET**
Brandon Austin
Jesse Baker
John Thomas Burson
Tyler Elvidge
Kristen Gravlee
Jessica Jarrett
Stacey Novik
Adam Reep
Timothy Rucker

**TROMBONE**
Michael DeSousa
Mitchell Frey
Michael Lockwood
Joseph Poole
Tony Wolcott
George Blevins

**EUPHONIUM**
Anthony Pirulisi
Stewart Yancey

**TUBA**
Kadeem Chambers
Melinda Mason

**DOUBLE BASS**
Nick Tworag

**PIANO**
Soyoun Sheehan

**HARP**
Tyler Hartley

**PERCUSSION**
Cameron Austin
Jake Darnell
Erik Kosman
Levi Lyman
Kyle Pridgen
Selena Sanchez
Kennesaw State University
Symphony Orchestra, Chamber Singers, Men's Ensemble

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2014 | 8 P.M.
Audrey B. and Jack E. Morgan, Sr. Concert Hall
at the Dr. Bobbie Bailey & Family Performance Center
Seventy-first Concert of the 2013-14 Concert Season

CHEN YI (b. 1953)
*Chinese Rap for Violin and Orchestra* (2014)
Helen Kim, violin
 *World Premiere*

CHEN YI
Symphony No. 3 (2003)
  I. The Dragon Culture
  II. The Melting Pot
  III. Dreaming
KSU Symphony Orchestra
Michael Alexander, conductor

Intermission

A. R. RAHMAN (b. 1967)
*Wedding Qawwali* from *Bombay Dreams* (2012)
arr. Ethan Sperry (b. 1971)
KSU Men’s Ensemble
Cameron Austin, Kyle Pridgen, Levi Lyman, and Ian Kennel, percussion

CHEN YI
Selections from *A Set of Chinese Folk Songs* (1994)
  Fengyan Song
  The Flowing Stream
  Diu Diu Deng
KSU Chamber Singers

A. R. RAHMAN
*Jai Ho* from *Slumdog Millionaire* (2008)
arr. Ethan Sperry
KSU Chamber Singers
Cameron Austin, Kyle Pridgen, Levi Lyman, and Ian Kennel, percussion
KSU Dance Company: Meghan Roberts, Camille Smith, Alexandra Guobergsdottir, Quiana Bello. Choreography: Rifka Mayani
Leslie Blackwell, conductor
Text and Translations

CHEN YI
*A Set of Chinese Folk Songs*

**Fengyang Song (Anhui Folk Song)**

Gongs and drums are in my hands,
I am singing a song while playing drums and gongs.
Other songs I don't know how to sing,
I can only sing a Fengyang song.

**The Flowing Stream (Yunnan Love Song)**

The rising moon is bright,
my sweetheart is in the deep mountain,
he is like the moon walking in the sky.
My sweetheart!
The flowing stream around the mountain is clear aside.
The moon is shining over the hillside,
looking at the moon and thinking of my sweetheart,
the breezes are sweeping past the hillside.
My sweetheart!
Don't you hear I cry?

**Diu Diu Deng (Taiwan Folk Song)**

Going up to the tunnel in the mountain,
the water in the cave is dropping down.
Going up to the tea mountain,
enjoy looking at the tea-picking girls.

This song is very popular in the Yilan region of Taiwan, where transportation and communication were difficult. When the railway reached this region, the people sang this lively song in celebration while riding the trains through the area’s beautiful mountains and valleys. The words “Diu Diu Deng” are nonsense syllables.

A.R. Rahman
**Jai Ho!**
arr. Ethan Sperry

Aaja aaja jind shamiyaane ke tale
Aaja zari waale neele aasmaane ke tale
Ratti ratti sachchi maine jaan gayai hai
Nach Nach koylon pe raat bitaayi hai

Come, come my Life, under the canopy.
Come under the blue brocade sky!
Iota by iota, I have lost my life. In faith
I’ve passed this night dancing on coals;
I blew away the sleep that was in my eyes;
I counted the stars ‘til my finger burned.

Dance! Dance!
Now with me, you dance for today,
for our day of movements.
No matter what problems may be:
Cheers! Dance! Dance!

Chakh le, haan chakh le, yeh raat shehed hai
Chakh le, haan rakh le, Dil hai, dil aakhir hadd hai
Kaala kaala kaajal tera Koi kaala jaadu hai na?

Dance With Me!

A.R. RAHMAN
Wedding Qawwali
arr. Ethan Sperry

Congratulations!

My Darling is like gold

Color me red
Color my veil in red
Apply red henna to my palms

I have found
All my prayers are blooming in color
Let’s all embrace and follow the rituals
Let’s sing songs for my beloved
With our scarves flowing under our legs
Michael Alexander, conductor

Michael Alexander is the Director of Orchestras and Interim Director of the School of Music at Kennesaw State University and serves as the Music Director of the Georgia Symphony Orchestra. Active as a guest conductor, he has conducted in Europe, Australia and at various places in the United States, including performances with the Central Wisconsin Symphony Orchestra, Illinois Valley Symphony Orchestra, the Maikop Symphony Orchestra and the Novgorod String Orchestra in Russia, the Bacau and Ploiesti Philharmonic in Romania, and the Catania Music Festival in Italy. In the summer of 2004 and 2009, he served as Music Director for the Madison Savoyards Opera Company. He has also appeared as a guest conductor four times with the Summer Music Clinic Orchestra at the University of Wisconsin and with the 2003-2006 Maud-Powell Music Festival Orchestra in LaSalle, IL. In March 2010, he conducted the 11-12 Georgia All-State Orchestra, and in the summer of 2011, was a guest conductor at the Highlands Music Festival.

Under his leadership, the Georgia Symphony has presented critically acclaimed performances and has seen enormous growth. During his eight year tenure, GYSO has added to its core of professional musicians, removed all debt it was under, expanded its budget, and created a comprehensive youth orchestra and chorus program with approximately 400 students from across the region.

In the summer of 2003, Dr. Alexander completed his Doctor of Musical Arts Degree at the University of Wisconsin-Madison in orchestral conducting. Prior to his current appointments, he has served on the faculties at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, and Ripon College. Dr. Alexander began the orchestra program at Kennesaw State University and under his direction the KSU Orchestra has performed at the 2009 Georgia Music Educators Association Annual In-Service, hosted and performed at the 2010 College Orchestra Directors Association National Conference, and completed a three concert tour of Beijing and Xian, China in January of 2011. He has conducted several District Honor Orchestras and has also presented workshops and sessions for The Ohio State University String Teacher Workshop and at the Georgia Music Educators Association Annual In-Service.

Helen Kim, violin

Helen Kim joined the music faculty in 2006 at Kennesaw State University with a stellar performance background. She made her orchestral debut with the Calgary Philharmonic at the age of six, and has gone on to become a respected and sought-after artist. She has appeared as a soloist with the Boston Pops at Boston’s Symphony Hall, as well as with the Milwaukee and Atlanta Symphony Orchestras.

Ms. Kim earned her Master's Degree from the Juilliard School, where her teachers included Cho-Liang Lin and Dorothy DeLay. She is the recipient of more than one hundred national and international awards. In 1992, she won the prestigious Artists International Competition in New York and, as a result, gave debut recitals at Carnegie Weill Hall and the Aspen Summer Music Festival.
A native of Canada, Ms. Kim has been engaged by many of Canada's leading orchestras, including the National Arts Center Orchestra, Montreal Metropolitan Orchestra, Vancouver Symphony, McGill Chamber Orchestra, and the Windsor, Regina, Victoria and Prince George Symphonies. She has also appeared with the Cobb, Georgia Symphony Orchestra, DeKalb, New Orleans, Aspen and Banff Festival Orchestras, and with orchestras in the United Kingdom, Germany and Poland.

Ms. Kim has toured extensively throughout Canada and the United States, including performances at Alice Tully Hall and the Sante Fe and La Jolla International Music Festivals, where she performed with Cho-Liang Lin, Gary Hoffman, Andre Previn, and the Orion String Quartet. She performed Bach’s Double violin concerto with Hilary Hahn at the 2002 Amelia Island Chamber music festival.

Ms. Kim has been profiled on national and international television and has appeared on CBC, PBS and CBS networks. Her performances have been aired on NPR and CBC radio networks. Ms. Kim served as assistant and associate concertmaster for the Atlanta Symphony for three seasons. She is currently the assistant concertmaster of the Atlanta Opera Orchestra. Ms. Kim performs with local new music ensembles, Bent Frequency, Sonic Generator, Thamyris and recently joined the Atlanta Chamber Players.

Leslie Blackwell, conductor

Leslie J. Blackwell is the Director of Choral Activities and Associate Professor of Music and Music Education at Kennesaw State University where she has directed choral activities since 1998. Dr. Blackwell’s duties include conducting the KSU Men’s Ensemble and KSU Chamber Singers as well as teaching advanced choral conducting and literature along with supervision of student teachers. A native of Georgia, Blackwell received the Associate of Arts degree from Gordon Junior College (1982), the Bachelor of Music in Music Education from West Georgia College (1984), the Master of Music from Georgia State University (1991), and the Doctor of Musical Arts degree from the University of Kentucky (2002).

Choirs under Dr. Blackwell’s direction have performed at National, Regional, and State conferences of the American Choral Directors Association as well as numerous Georgia Music Educators Association State Conventions. In 2010 Dr. Blackwell presented Songs of South America for the American Choral Directors Association with the KSU Chamber Singers, featuring music of South America based upon her choral research and work in Argentina. In October 2013 the KSU Chamber Singers was selected to perform at the National Collegiate Choral Organization 5th National Conference.

Recognized for her work with men’s voices, Dr. Blackwell served six seasons as the Artistic Director of the Atlanta Gay Men’s Chorus, conducted the 2013 Georgia All-State Men’s Chorus, and established the KSU Male Chorus Day at Kennesaw State University, bringing upwards of 200 high school male students to campus. In 2007, the KSU Men’s Ensemble was featured at the Georgia Music Educators Association In-Service Conference presentation, “Men Can’t Live with Them, Can’t Sing without Them!” The KSU Men’s Ensemble performed at the 2012 Georgia Music Educators Association In-Service Conference in Savannah, Georgia and was a featured choir.
at the American Choral Directors Association State Conference at Spivey Hall in summer, 2013. Most recently, the Kennesaw State University Men’s Ensemble was selected to perform at the 2013 American Choral Directors National Conference in Dallas, Texas.

Influential musicians with whom Dr. Blackwell has worked are Robert Shaw, Ann Howard-Jones, Yoel Levi, Norma Raybon, John Haberlen, Rodney Eichenberger, David Maslanka, Ola Gjeilo, Ethan Sperry, and Jefferson Johnson.

In addition to her commitments at Kennesaw State University, Dr. Blackwell is active as a clinician and adjudicator and holds memberships in MENC, GMEA, and ACDA. She also serves on the Board of Directors for Georgia ACDA. Currently, Dr. Blackwell is the Artistic Director and Founding Director of the Kennesaw State University Community & Alumni Choir.

Rifka Mayani, choreographer

Rifka Mayani is a graduate from one of India’s premier dance institutions - Sri Rajarajeshwari Bharatha Natyam Kala Mandir, Mumbai. Since her initial training at the tender age of 6, Rifka has studied and performed this Indian classical art form for more than 35 years under the tutelage of Guru Kalyan Sundaram Pillai. Her performances over the years both in India and the USA, have included several original works by her Guruji.

In addition to her intensive study of Bharatha Natyam, Rifka’s academic pursuit has led her to earn several degrees - an MBA from Kennesaw State University (KSU) in 1997; a Bachelor’s in Law (LLB) in 1994 and a Bachelor’s in Arts (BA) with a Political Science concentration in 1991; both from the University of Mumbai, India. Rifka currently serves as the Associate Executive Director for Enterprise Systems and Services at KSU and as an Instructor of Dance in the College of the Arts. She also serves as an affiliated faculty in the Asian Studies Program.

Rifka is the artistic director and choreographer for Tandav Themes Dance Academy, an Indian Classical Dance School of “Bharatha Natyam” in Atlanta, for young aspirants of the chiseled dance discipline. Through this school Rifka imparts knowledge of this ancient art from in the pure Thanjavur style.

Composer Biographies

CHEN YI (b. 1953)

Biographical information for KSFNM 2014 Featured Guest Composer Chen Yi is available beginning on page 5.

A. R. RAHMAN (b. 1967)

Allah-Rakha Rahman is described as the world's most prominent and prolific film composer by Time. His works are notable for integrating Eastern classical music with electronic music sounds, world music genres and traditional orchestral arrangements.

He has won two Academy Awards, two Grammy Awards, a BAFTA Award, a Golden Globe, four National Film Awards, fifteen Filmfare Awards and thirteen Filmfare Awards South in addition to numerous other awards and nominations.
His extensive body of work for film and the stage earned him the nickname "the Mozart of Madras" and several Tamil commentators and fans have coined him the nickname Isai Puyal (English: Music Storm). In 2009, Time placed Rahman in its list of World's Most Influential People.

The UK based World Music magazine Songlines named him one of 'Tomorrow's World Music Icons' in August 2011. Having set up his own in-house studio called Panchathan Record Inn at Chennai, arguably one of Asia's most sophisticated and high-tech studios, Rahman's film scoring career began in the early 1990s with the Tamil film Roja.

Working in India's various film industries, international cinema and theatre, Rahman is one of the world's all-time top selling recording artists. In a notable career spanning two decades, Rahman has garnered particular acclaim for redefining contemporary Indian film music and thus contributing to the success of several films.

Rahman is currently one of the highest paid composers of the motion picture industry. He is a notable humanitarian and philanthropist, donating and raising money for beneficial causes and supporting charities.

ETHAN SPERRY (b. 1971)

Ethan Sperry, born in New York City, began studying conducting at the age of eight, cello at the age of twelve, and singing at the age of eighteen. He has earned a bachelor's degree in Philosophy from Harvard College and Masters and Doctoral degrees in Choral Conducting from the University of Southern California. Ensembles under his direction have toured to Bermuda, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Guadeloupe, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Korea, Luxembourg, Puerto Rico, Russia, and Taiwan, and have performed at major venues in the United States including the Kennedy Center, The Washington National Cathedral, St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York City, The Nassau Coliseum, Cincinnati's Music Hall, and Boston's Symphony Hall.

Ethan Sperry is currently a Professor of Music at Portland State University.

Personnel

KENNESAW STATE UNIVERSITY SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

CONDUCTOR
Michael Alexander

FLUTE
Catherine Flinchum
Charis Hanson
Catherine Rothery

OBOE
Andrew Connard
Alexander Sifuentes

CLARINET
Tyler Moore
Mudussir Quraishi
Ryan Tang

BASSOON
Sarah Fluker
Shelby Jones
Dustin Price
KENNESAW STATE UNIVERSITY MEN’S ENSEMBLE

CONDUCTOR
Leslie Blackwell

ACCOMPANIST
Sherri N. Barrett

TENOR 1
Joseph McBrayer
Kevin Loggins

HORN
David Anders
Kristen Arvold
Nathan Bedgood
Sarah Jarrett

TRUMPET
Brandon Austin
Jesse Baker
John Thomas Burson

TROMBONE
Michael Lockwood
Mitchell Frey

BASS TROMBONE
Joseph Poole

TUBA
Melinda Mason

HARP
Tyler Hartley

PERCUSSION
Cameron Austin
Levi Lyman
Erik Kosman
Selena Sanchez

VIOLIN 1
Jarred Cook
DuMarkus Davis
Ryan Gregory
Sarah Hoefer
Grace Johnston
Danielle Moeller

VIOLIN 2
Rachel Campbell
Micah David
Sara Rose Halverson
Terry Keeling
Lauren Miller
Brittany Thayer
Kevin Williams

VIOLA
Katie Baumgarten
Justin Brookins
Audine Crosse
Hallie Grubb
Kyle Mayes
Perry Morris
Samantha Tang
Natalie Thompson

CELLO
Kathryn Encisco
Hannah Grussing
Rachel Halverson
Avery McCoy
Michael Roberts
Dorian Silva
Michael Thomas

BASS
Jarod Boles
David Metrio
Matthew Richards
Nicholas Scholefield
Nick Twarog

KENNESAW STATE UNIVERSITY MEN’S ENSEMBLE

CONDUCTOR
Leslie Blackwell

ACCOMPANIST
Sherri N. Barrett

TENOR 1
Joseph McBrayer
Kevin Loggins

TENOR 2
Jesse Alexander
Terrell Flemings
KENNESAW STATE UNIVERSITY CHAMBER SINGERS

CONDUCTOR
Leslie Blackwell

ACCOMPANIST
Sherri N. Barrett

SOPRANO
Vanessa Burnham
Victoria Caracci
Emily Crisp
Megan Gibson
Amy Hebel
Ashley Naffziger
Shannan O’Dowd
Siobhan Rodriguez
Brianna Westland

ALTO
Naarah Callender
Camille Hathaway
Karen Martin
Julie Mitchell
Avery Rabbitt
Susan Reyes
Delaney Rogers
Kim Royer
Madeline Scott

BASS
Nathan Brosy
Benjamin Cubitt
Sean Eliason
Luke Hedrick
Nicholas Kaye
Abisai Pena
Jason Raphael
Trevor Sands
Julian Selano
Ryan Stoyer
Jacob Wachtel
Hunter Young

Kennesaw State University Chamber Singers

Matthew Siano
Andy Tuttle
Jose Valdez

TENOR
Kris Davis
Eric Donaldson
Jake Glover
Thomas Hartwell
Kevin Loggins
Joseph McBryar
Terry Pendleton
Forrest Starr
Travis St. Dic
Alex Trull
Brian Van Buskirk

BASS
Michael Bart
Sean Eliason
Dylan Gray
Daniel Hidalgo
Erinn Johnson
Timothy Marshall
Julian Nole
Jason Raphael
Andy Tuttle

Conner Horton
Erinn Johnson
Julian Nole
Zach Planchet
Joss Stark
Alexander Turner
Kennesaw State University
Jazz Ensemble I

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2014 | 8 P.M.
Audrey B. and Jack E. Morgan, Sr. Concert Hall
at the Dr. Bobbie Bailey & Family Performance Center
Seventy-second Concert of the 2013-14 Concert Season

The Music of Maria Schneider

Journey Home

The “Pretty” Road

Waltz for Toots

Last Season

Danca Ilusoria

All compositions by Maria Schneider.
Maria Schneider's music has been hailed by critics as “evocative, majestic, magical, heart-stoppingly gorgeous, and beyond categorization.” She and her orchestra became widely known starting in 1994 when they released their first recording, 'Evanescence.' With that recording, Schneider began to develop her personal way of writing for her 17-member collective, made up of many of the finest musicians in jazz today, tailoring her compositions to distinctly highlight the uniquely creative voices of the group. Subsequently, the Maria Schneider Orchestra has performed at festivals and concert halls worldwide. She herself has received numerous commissions and guest conducting invites, working with over 85 groups from over 30 countries spanning Europe, South America, Australia, Asia and North America.

Schneider’s music blurs the lines between genres, and as a result, her long list of commissioners have become quite varied: the Norrbotten Big Band and Danish Radio Orchestra with Toots Thielemans and Ivan Lins, the Metropole Orchestra in the Netherlands, Carnegie Hall Jazz Orchestra (El Viento), Monterey Jazz Festival (Scenes from Childhood), The American Dance Festival (for dance company, Pilobolus - Dissolution), University of Miami Concert Jazz Band (Three Romances), Hunter College (Concert in the Garden, Sky Blue), Jazz at Lincoln Center (Buleria, Soleá y Rumba), Los Angeles Philharmonic Association (Aires de Lando), Peter Sellars’ New Crowned Hope Festival (Vienna’s Mozart Festival–Cerulean Skies), Kronos Quartet (String Quartet No. 1), The Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra with soprano, Dawn Upshaw, Carlos Drummond de Andrade Stories) and most recently, the Ojai Festival, the Australian Chamber Orchestra and Cal Performances (Winter Morning Walks), featuring soprano, Dawn Upshaw, and three musicians long associated with Schneider: pianist, Frank Kimbrough, bassist, Jay Anderson, and multi-instrumentalist, Scott Robinson.

Schneider and her orchestra have a distinguished recording career with nine GRAMMY nominations and two GRAMMY awards. Unique funding of projects has become a hallmark for Schneider through the trend-setting company, ArtistShare®. For these projects, she documents her creative process for participating fans, who "fan-fund" her recordings through pre-orders. She's now composed four works for her own orchestra with the participation of commissioners coming directly from her ArtistShare® website fan base. Her album, Concert in the Garden (2004) became historic as the first recording to win a GRAMMY with Internet-only sales. Even more significantly, it blazed the "fan-funding" trail as ArtistShare’s® first release. Her albums, Concert in the Garden and Sky Blue were both named “Jazz Album of the Year” by the Jazz Journalists Association and DOWNBEAT Critics Poll, and received wide critical acclaim.

In 2012, her alma mater, the University of Minnesota, awarded Schneider an honorary doctorate.

“Maria Schneider’s orchestral jazz is about feeling. Like Wayne Shorter, she somehow expresses compassion through tones.” –THE NEW YORK TIMES

“To call Schneider the most important woman in jazz is missing the point. She is a major composer—period.” –TIME MAGAZINE
Sam Skelton, a native of Conyers, Georgia, has been active on the Atlanta music scene for well over two decades. Skelton graduated summa cum laude from Georgia State University and the private studio of Tony Carere with a degree in Jazz Studies. During his course of study at GSU, Skelton was a Montgomery Music Scholar and a two-time fellowship recipient to the Aspen Music Festival. He continued his saxophone studies with Kenneth Radnofsky at Boston University in 1991.

Skelton has performed and/or soloed with The London Symphony Orchestra, The Atlanta Symphony, The Atlanta Pops, The Peachtree Pops, The Atlanta Ballet Orchestra and The Cobb Symphony Orchestra as well as numerous local high school and civic ensembles. World Premiers include James Oliverio’s Children of A Common Mother, Lee Johnson’s Ora Pro Mi: Concerto for Winds Soloist (clarinet, flute and soprano saxophone) and Seaside Symphony (clarinet and soprano saxophone soloist). Skelton also played the premier recording of Ora Pro Mi and Seaside Symphony with the London Symphony Orchestra.

As a sideman on over 175 compact discs, Skelton remains very active in the studio and can be heard on recordings by such artists as: Elton John, December Radio, Babbie Mason, Howard Tate, Matchbox 20, Train, Edwin McCain, The Gap Band and The Ohio Players. Television and radio jingles include The Georgia Lottery, Glen Beck, The Weather Channel, The Travel Channel, Ford, The Cartoon Network, CNN, Nature’s Own, Popeye’s, Papa John’s and Turner South. Television appearances include In the Heat of the Night, Savannah and Sinbad’s Summer Jam II on HBO.

Skelton is currently Director of Jazz Studies and Lecturer in Saxophone at Kennesaw State University. He is also Artistic Director of CSO Jazz and GYSO Jazz. Skelton served as Professor of Saxophone at Georgia State University from 1991 to 2004 and was Jazz Ensemble Director at Georgia Tech from 2002-2004 and Artist-in-Residence at The University Of Georgia Jazz Department. He served as Visiting Professor of Saxophone at Furman University 2001-02. Professional associations include: Georgia Music Educators Association, Georgia Association of Jazz Educators, National Academy of Recording Arts & Sciences (voting member) and the American Federation of Musicians. Skelton is a Conn-Selmer Artist.

Personnel

**DIRECTOR**
Sam Skelton

**REEDS**
Chris Otts
Kwame Paige
Chris Malloy
Jason Kaplan
Michael Opitz

**TRUMPET**
Justin Rowan
Brandon Austin
John Thomas Burson
Eric Donaldson

**TROMBONE**
Nick Dixon
Katie Riess
Michael Lockwood
Mitchell Frey

**RHYTHM**
Brian Reid, piano
Brandon Boone, bass
Andrew Lastrapes, guitar
Patrick Arthur, guitar
Nicholas Franz, guitar
Cameron Austin, drums
Dominic Brown, drums
Simone Dinnerstein and Tift Merritt

*NIGHT*: an evening with Simone Dinnerstein and Tift Merritt

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2014 | 8 P.M.
Audrey B. and Jack E. Morgan, Sr. Concert Hall
at the Dr. Bobbie Bailey & Family Performance Center
*Seventy-third Concert of the 2013-14 Concert Season*

*Simone Dinnerstein*, piano
*Tift Merritt*, guitar and vocals

The performers will announce their selections from the stage.
Pianist Simone Dinnerstein and singer-songwriter Tift Merritt join forces in NIGHT, a unique collaboration uniting folk, rock and classical worlds, exploring common terrain and uncovering new musical landscapes. Though Simone (a Juilliard-trained classical pianist from Brooklyn) and Tift (a singer-songwriter from North Carolina whose father taught her to play by ear) could not come from more different musical backgrounds, when the two met they immediately realized that their passion for music was kindred, if not the same. Night features new songs by Brad Mehldau and Patty Griffin, Tift’s own songs, selections by Bach and Schubert, and The Cohen Variations by Daniel Felsenfeld, based on Leonard Cohen’s Suzanne. Tift and Simone’s studio recording of Night was released on Sony on March 19, 2013.

Simone Dinnerstein, piano

Simone Dinnerstein, American pianist, is a searching and inventive artist motivated by a desire to find the musical core of every work she approaches. The Independent praises the “majestic originality of her vision” and NPR reports, “She compels the listener to follow her in a journey of discovery filled with unscheduled detours.” The New York-based pianist gained an international following because of the remarkable success of her recording of Bach’s Goldberg Variations, which she raised the funds to record. Released in 2007, it ranked No. 1 on the U.S. Billboard Classical Chart in its first week of sales and was named to many “Best of” lists including those of The New York Times, The Los Angeles Times, and The New Yorker. The three albums she has released since then – The Berlin Concert, Bach: A Strange Beauty, and Something Almost Being Said – have also topped the classical charts, with Bach: A Strange Beauty making the Billboard Top 200, which compiles the entire music industry’s sales of albums in all genres. Dinnerstein was the bestselling instrumentalist of 2011 on the U.S. Billboard Classical Chart.

Her performance schedule has taken her around the world since her triumphant New York recital debut at Carnegie Hall’s Weill Recital Hall in 2005, to major venues including the Kennedy Center, Vienna Konzerthaus, Berlin Philharmonie, Lincoln Center, and London’s Wigmore Hall, among many others. She has been a soloist with leading orchestras including the New York Philharmonic, Tokyo Symphony, Vienna Symphony, and more. Dinnerstein has also played concerts throughout the country for the Piatigorsky Foundation, an organization dedicated to bringing classical music to non-traditional venues, and performed at the Maryland Correctional Institution for Women in a concert organized by the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra to coincide with her BSO debut. Dedicated to her community, in 2009 Dinnerstein founded Neighborhood Classics, a concert series that raises funds for and is hosted by New York City public schools.

www.simonedinnerstein.com

Ms. Dinnerstein is represented worldwide by IMG Artists
Tanja Dorn, Associate Director of Conductors & Instrumentalists Division
Germany & North/South America Carnegie Hall Tower
152 W 57th Street 5th floor
New York, NY 10019
Simone Dinnerstein records exclusively for SONY Classical
Tift Merritt, guitar and vocals

Tift Merritt, who The New Yorker has called “the bearer of a proud tradition of distaff country soul that reaches back to artists like Dusty Springfield and Bobbie Gentry,” a standard upholding that got underway in earnest with Bramble Rose, the 2002 solo debut that put her on the Americana map forever. As her sophomore album, Tambourine, was followed by Another Country and See You on the Moon, Merritt found acclaim coming not just from critics and awards organizations but her own heroes, like Emmylou Harris, who marveled that Merritt “stood out like a diamond in a coal patch.” Now a leading lady in her own right, Merritt is hardly one to hog the spotlight. She engages in dialogue with fellow artists of all disciplines on her public radio broadcast and podcast “The Spark With Tift Merritt,” bringing in fellow sojourners ranging from Patty Griffin and Rosanne Cash to Rick Moody and Nick Hornby (who devoted a chapter to Merritt in his 31 Songs book). Of her latest album, Traveling Alone, released by Yep Roc in October 2012, USA Today raves, “Steel-laced country-soul only hints at the sublime charms of Merritt’s Traveling Alone,” and Paste writes, “Traveling Alone . . . not only shows her true lyrical and vocal range, but suggests an adventurous spirit beneath the placid surface.”

www.tiftmerritt.com
School of Music Faculty and Staff

Interim Director
Michael Alexander

Woodwinds
Cecilia Price, Flute
Todd Skitch, Flute
Christina Smith, Flute
Elizabeth Koch Tiscione, Oboe
Dane Philipsen, Oboe
John Warren, Clarinet
Laura Najarian, Bassoon
Sam Skelton, Saxophone

Brass and Percussion
Doug Lindsey, Trumpet
Lester Walker, Jazz Trumpet
Jason Ecklund, Horn
Thomas Witte, Horn
Tom Gibson, Trombone
Brian Hecht, Trombone
Bernard Flythe, Tuba/Euphonium
Michael Moore, Tuba
Justin Chesarek, Jazz Percussion
John Lawless, Percussion

Strings
Helen Kim, Violin
Kenn Wagner, Violin
Catherine Lynn, Viola
Allyson Fleck, Viola
Charae Krueger, Cello
Douglas Sommer, Double Bass
Joseph McFadden, Double Bass
Elisabeth Remy Johnson, Harp
Mary Akerman, Classical Guitar
Trey Wright, Jazz Guitar
Marc Miller, Jazz Bass

Ensembles & Conductors
Leslie J. Blackwell, Choral Activities
Alison Mann, Choral Activities
Oral Moses, Gospel Choir
Eileen Moremen, Opera
Michael Alexander, Orchestras
Charles Laux, Orchestras
John Culvahouse, Wind Ensembles
David T. Kehler, Wind Ensembles
Wes Funderburk, Jazz Ensembles
Sam Skelton, Jazz Ensembles
Justin Chesarek, Jazz Combos
Marc Miller, Jazz Combos
Trey Wright, Jazz Combos

Voice
Carolyn Dorff
Adam Kirkpatrick
Eileen Moremen
Oral Moses
Leah Partridge
Valerie Walters
Jana Young

Piano
Judith Cole, Collaborative Piano & Musical Theatre
Robert Henry

Tyrone Jackson, Jazz Piano
John Marsh, Class Piano
David Watkins
Soohyun Yun

Music History & Appreciation
Drew Dolan
Edward Eanes
Doug Lindsey
John Marsh
Katherine Morehouse
Harry Price
Trey Wright

Music Education
Janet Boner
Kathleen Creasy
John Culvahouse
Margaret Grayburn
Charles Jackson
Charles Laux
Alison Mann
Angela McKee
Richard McKee
Harry Price
Terri Talley
Amber Weldon-Stephens

Music Theory, Composition & Technology
Judith Cole
Kelly Francis
Jennifer Mitchell
Laurence Sherr
Benjamin Wadsworth
Jeff Yunek

Chamber Music
Allyson Fleck
Bernard Flythe
Charae Krueger
Catherine Lynn
Joseph McFadden
Harry Price
Kenn Wagner
John Warren
Soohyun Yun

Ensembles in Residence
Atlanta Percussion Trio
Faculty Jazz Parliament
Georgia Youth Symphony Orchestra & Chorus
KSU Faculty Chamber Players
KSU Faculty String Trio

School of Music Staff
Julia Becker
Bob Becklean
Dominic Bruno
Steve Burton
David Daly
Susan M. Grant Robinson
Joseph Greenway
Dan Hesketh
June Mauser
Kennesaw State University School of Music

The School of Music at KSU has dedicated, vibrant, and talented faculty and staff that are completely devoted to teaching, performing, scholarship, and serving our community. It is an incredibly exciting place to study, boasting state-of-the-art facilities with opportunities to produce and explore music in a dynamic place that is ahead of the curve for what it means to be a musician in the 21st century. Our students come from the leading musical honor organizations across the region and are poised to lead the cultural offerings and musical education in our area and beyond for years to come.

We welcome you to attend a concert, meet our faculty and staff, and feel the energy and excitement that our students exude. We are fully committed to our purpose as educators, performers, and scholars. We hope that you will find as much enjoyment in our product as we do in producing it.

Connect with the School of Music

For more information about the School of Music, connect with us online at the websites below. Tweet at us during tonight's concert from Morgan Hall's Tweet Seats to connect with fellow concertgoers during the performance.

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Please consider a gift to the Kennesaw State University School of Music.  
http://community.kennesaw.edu/GiveToMusic

Upcoming Events

Unless otherwise noted, all events will take place at 8:00 pm in Morgan Concert Hall.

Tuesday, February 18
KSFMN: Wind Ensemble

Wednesday, February 19
KSFMN: Symphony Orchestra and Chamber Singers

Thursday, February 20
KSFMN: Jazz Ensembles

Friday, February 21
KSFMN: NIGHT: an evening with Simone Dinnerstein and Tift Merritt

Monday, February 24
Faculty Recital: Charae Krueger, cello and Robert Henry, piano

Tuesday, February 25
Choral Ensembles

Wednesday, February 26
The Pianissimo Piano Ensemble

Thursday, February 27
Philharmonic & Concert Band

We welcome all guests with special needs and offer the following services: easy access, companion seating locations, accessible restrooms, and assisted listening devices. Please contact a patron services representative at 770-423-6650 to request services.