

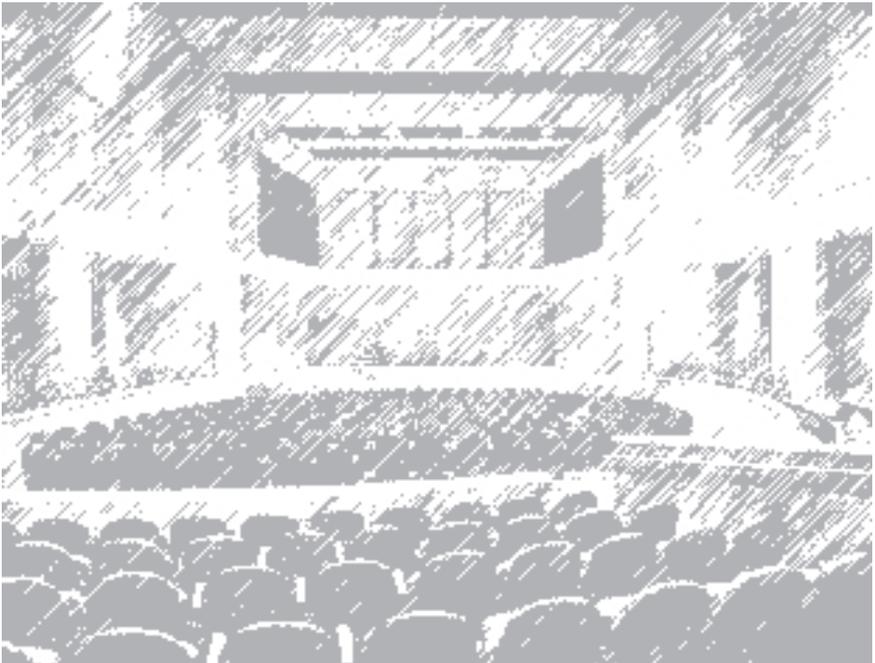
Kennesaw State University
School of Music



Junior Recital

Grace Johnston, violin

Judy Cole, piano



Monday, May 9, 2016 at 6:00 p.m.

Music Building Recital Hall

One Hundred and Forty-third Concert of the 2015-16 Concert Season

program

JOHANN SEBASTIAN BACH (1685-1750)

Sonata No. 2 in A minor for Violin Solo

IV. Allegro

NICCOLO PAGANINI (1782-1840)

Caprice No. 17 for Violin Solo

PETER TCHAIKOVSKY (1840-1893)

Violin Concerto in D Major, Op. 35

I. Allegro moderato

This recital is presented in partial fulfillment of requirements for the degree
Bachelor of Music in Performance.
Ms. Johnston studies violin with Helen Kim.

program notes

Sonata No. 2 for violin solo, IV. *Allegro* | Johann Sebastian Bach

Johann Sebastian Bach was born in Eisenach, Germany in 1685. One of the best-known composers of all time, Bach is recognized not only for the enormous amount of church music that he composed, but also for the solo instrumental works that have become irreplaceable standards in the list of repertory violin, piano, flute and cello. The works that he composed for solo violin include three sonatas and three partitas. Because of the religious influence and dedication to God that Bach incorporated into his works, it is traditionally thought that the three violin sonatas invoke the birth, death, and resurrection of Christ. The second sonata, dealing with the death of Christ, has four movements: *Grave*, *Fuga*, *Andante*, and *Allegro*. The *Allegro* is a weighty, moderately fast movement that has a quick succession of contrasting dynamics.

Caprice No. 17 | Niccolò Paganini

Paganini was an Italian violinist, guitarist, and composer. He was celebrated and unrivaled in his day for his virtuosity on the violin. Since Paganini suffered from Marfan Syndrome, he had an unusually wide hand span that allowed him to expand violin technique. He was known for giving showy performances and, in order to have sold-out performances, he may or may not have started sensationalist rumors hinting that a devil would appear in ghostly form behind him as he performed. The most famous of his violin works is the *Twenty-Four Caprices*. While he originally intended for them to be for technical development outside of the concert hall, these caprices have become part of the staple violin performance repertoire. *Caprice No. 17* embodies his sense of humor, joviality, and technical development.

Concerto for Violin in D Major, I. *Allegro Moderato* | Peter Tchaikovsky

Late Romantic composer Peter Tchaikovsky was born in the year 1840 in Russia. Altogether, he had six symphonies and wrote several famous ballets. The *Concerto for Violin in D Major* reveals how deeply he was influenced by the art form of ballet. The first movement particularly shows the gracefulness of ballet dancing by the major sixths that appear and invoke the lifting of a ballerina off of the ground. The lengthy movement is in sonata form and the exposition is separated from the recapitulation by a development that includes a dramatic cadenza. The recapitulation wraps up with a speeding ride to the triumphant end.

biography

Grace Johnston is currently studying to receive her B. A. in Violin Performance at Kennesaw State University School of Music. She is currently a member of the National Society of Collegiate Scholars, Pi Kappa Lambda National Music Honor Society, a member of the Dean's list (University and School of Music) and recently received recognition as a 2016 Undergraduate Scholar of Research and Creative Activity at KSU. During high school, she participated in Georgia All State Orchestra (2011 and 2012) and the Atlanta Symphony Youth Orchestra (2011-2012 season). She has been privileged to study with Angele Lawless, Jay Christy, and Professor Helen Kim. A few of the places in her performance experience include the Woodruff Arts Center Symphony Hall in Atlanta, the Cobb Energy Center, the Gwinnett Arena, and the Bailey Performance Center. She has also been able to perform in masterclasses for Robert Spano, David Coucheron, Dr. John Iberra, Manuel Diaz, and Midori Goto. Her experience also includes studying orchestral repertoire under Robert Spano, Jere Flint, Dr. Michael Alexander, Donald Runnicles, Jung Ho Pak and Dr. Nathaniel Parker. Her orchestral experience includes being a rotating principle second violinist as well as rotating concertmaster in the Kennesaw State University Orchestra.

Miss Johnston was born in Pulaski, Virginia, but has spent most of her life in the northern suburbs of Atlanta. As a child, she had many musical influences in her life including her aunts (both pianists), her father who plays piano and organ, and a church music program that trained her to conduct the church bell choirs. A teacher at heart, she has been teaching private music lessons for the past 5+ years. She plans to attend a graduate program to attain her M. A. in Violin Performance. When not studying, practicing, or teaching, she enjoys sleeping, hiking, pencil art, and puzzles — in that order.