



College of the Arts

School of Music

presents

KSU FACULTY RECITAL

**Oral Moses, bass-baritone
and**

Fisk Jubilee Singers®

Paul T. Kwami, director

Rosalyn Floyd, piano

Friday, October 26, 2012
8:00 p.m.

Dr. Bobbie Bailey & Family Performance Center

Twenty-third Concert of the 2012 -2013 Season

**Kennesaw State University
School of Music
Audrey B. and Jack E. Morgan, Sr. Concert Hall
October 26, 2012**

Oral Moses

Walk Together Children arr. Moses Hogan

Sometimes I Feel Like a Motherless Child arr. Burleigh/Lindgren
Johnny Brown, flute

Joshua Fit de Battle of Jericho arr. Margaret Bonds

Didn't My Lord Deliver Daniel arr. Harry T. Burleigh

Fisk Jubilee Singers®

I Cannot Stay Here by Myself arr. Hall Johnson
Sabrina Walker, alto
Cameron Clark, tenor

I've Been in the Storm arr. John W. Work, III
Marquis Murphy, tenor

The Battle of Jericho Moses Hogan

Ain'-a That Good News arr. William L. Dawson

Oral Moses and Fisk Jubilee Singers®

I Got a Home arr. Moses Hogan

Deep River arr. Paul T. Kwami

Done Made My Vow

arr. John W. Work, III

INTERMISSION

Fisk Jubilee Singers®

I Know I've Been Changed

arr. Damon H. Dandridge

Cameron Clark, tenor

Wade in the Water

arr. Paul T. Kwami

Audrey Tillis, soprano

I Thank You Jesus

arr. Robert L. Morris

Oral Moses

Witness

Hall Johnson

This River

Uzee Brown, Jr.

This Little Light of Mine

John W. Work, III

I'm Gonna Shout all Over God's Heaven

arr. Uzee Brown, Jr.

Oral Moses and Fisk Jubilee Singers®

Daniel, Daniel Servant of the Lord

arr. Undine S. Moore

I'll Never Turn Back No Mo'

arr. Hall Johnson

Ev'ry Time I Feel the Spirit

arr. William L. Dawson

Fare You Well

arr. Undine S. Moore

About the Fisk Jubilee Singers®

Fisk University opened in Nashville in 1866 as the first American university to offer a liberal arts education to “young men and women irrespective of color.” Five years later, the school was in dire financial straits.

George L. White, then Fisk treasurer and music professor, created a nine-member choral ensemble of students and took it on tour to earn money for the University. The group left campus on October 6, 1871. Jubilee Day is celebrated annually on October 6 to commemorate this historic day.

The first concerts were in small towns. Surprise, curiosity and some hostility were the early audience responses to these young black singers, who did not perform in the traditional “minstrel fashion.”

One early concert in Cincinnati brought in \$50, which was promptly donated to victims of the notorious 1871 fire in Chicago. When the chorale ensemble reached Columbus, the next city on tour, the students were physically and emotionally drained. Mr. White, in a gesture of hope and encouragement, named them “The Jubilee Singers,” a Biblical reference to the year of Jubilee in the Book of Leviticus, Chapter 25.

Continued perseverance and beautiful voices began to change attitudes among the predominantly white audiences. Eventually, skepticism was replaced by standing ovations and critical praise in reviews. Gradually, they earned enough money to cover expenses and send back to Fisk.

In 1872, they sang at the World Peace Festival in Boston and at the end of the year, President Ulysses S. Grant invited them to perform at the White House.

In 1873, the group grew to 11 members and toured Europe for the first time. Funds raised that year were used to construct the school’s first permanent building, Jubilee Hall. Today, Jubilee Hall, designated a national historic landmark by the U.S. Department of the Interior in 1975, is one of the oldest structures on campus. The beautiful

Victorian Gothic building houses a floor-to-ceiling portrait of the original Jubilee Singers, commissioned by Queen Victoria during the 1873 tour as a gift from England to Fisk.

The ensemble continues to travel around the world, singing the Negro spiritual and representing Fisk University. The two-time Grammy-nominated Fisk Jubilee Singers® have won a Dove Award and have been inducted into the Gospel Music Hall of Fame, as well as into the Music City Walk of Fame.

By a special invitation from the United States Department of State, the Fisk Jubilee Singers traveled to Ghana for the first time in 2007, where they performed to celebrate the 50th independence anniversary of Ghana. This journey was historic and became known as “A Sacred Journey.” One of the venues where the performances took place was on the grounds of Elmina Castle.

In 2008, the Fisk Jubilee Singers were awarded the National Medal of Arts by former President George W. Bush at the White House. Other awards the Fisk Jubilee Singers® have garnered include the Governor’s Award, the Recording Academy Honors and the Heritage Award of the Nashville Music Awards.

Oral Moses, bass-baritone, performs regularly throughout the United States and Europe singing Oratorio and recitals with special emphasis on Negro Spirituals and Art Song repertoire by African-American composers.

In Oratorio and Opera, he has performed major roles in *Le Nozze di Figaro*, *Regina*, *La Boheme*, *Albert Herring*, *Tremonisha*, *Rigoletto*, and *Die Zauberflöte*. Symphonic engagements have included works with the Nashville Symphony, the Jackson Symphony, Detroit Symphony, Lansing Symphony, Tacoma Symphony and the Atlanta Symphony. He has toured Eastern Europe, Poland, Hungary, Czechoslovakia, Austria and Berlin singing the role of Porgy in *Porgy and Bess*.

He has recorded CDs of art songs and spirituals by African-American composers, among which is his last CD entitled, *Oral Moses sings... songs of America*. His CD, *Extreme Spirituals*, is a collaboration with the controversial eclectic rock/classical band Birdsongs of the Mesozoic on Cuneiform label. In 2001, Albany Records released a collection of spirituals. He sang, "Spirituals in Zion," which he recorded in the historic Zion Baptist Church built by enslaved African Americans in 1861. As a solo recording artist for Albany Records, his premiere CD, *Deep River: Songs and Spirituals of Harry T. Burleigh*, is featured in the PBS film documentary, *Antonin Dvorak in America*. His second CD, *Amen! African-American composers of the Twentieth Century*, continues to be a best seller. He has collaborated with gospel artist, Babbie Mason, on the CD/Video project, *Treasured Memories: A Celebration Of Our Gospel Music Heritage*, documenting the rich legacy of gospel music. A second CD collaboration entitled, *Third Day Offerings: A Worship Album*, allowed him to record with the contemporary Christian Rock group, Third Day, and earned him his first gold record. His most recent contribution to the work of preserving the Negro Spiritual is the website: www.thenegrospiritualinc.com

Born in South Carolina, he began his singing career as a member of the United States Seventh Army soldiers Chorus in Heidelberg, Germany, and as a member of the Fisk Jubilee Singers® while attending Fisk University following his military career. Upon his return to the United States, he earned a Masters of Music and a Doctorate of Musical Arts Degree in Vocal Performance and Opera from the University of Michigan. In 1986, as a recipient of a National Endowment for the Humanities Grant, he co-authored a book entitled, *Feel The Spirit-Studies in Nineteenth Century Afro-American Music*, published by Greenwood Press.

UPCOMING PREMIERE SERIES

Thursday, November 1
The Aspen String Trio

Friday, February 15
Sō Percussion

Thursday, April 11
Jennifer Koh and Shai Wosner

UPCOMING SCHOLARSHIP SERIES

Thursday, November 29
Choral Holiday Concert

Thursday, January 10
KSU Symphony Orchestra

Saturday, February 2
School of Music Collage Concert

Monday, March 18
Helen Kim, violin

Monday, April 29
KSU Percussion Ensemble

Morgan Hall, Bailey Center 8:00 pm

**Kennesaw State University
School of Music Upcoming Events**

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

Monday, October 29, 2012

**Faculty Recital: The Jazz Trio presents
The Music of the Beatles**

Tuesday, October 30, 2012

Concerto Competition Finals

Saturday, November 3, 2012

**Alumni and Friends Brass Band
6:00 pm • Morgan Hall**

Monday, November 5, 2012

Guest Recital: Nova Thomas, soprano

Monday, November 5, 2012

**Guest Recital/Lecture: Jocelyn Adelman, violin
and Amanda Halstead, piano
7:30 pm • Music Building Recital Hall**

Wednesday, November 7, 2012

Jazz Combos

For the most current information, please visit
<http://calendar.kennesaw.edu>

Ladies and Gentlemen, welcome to the Morgan Hall at the Bailey Performance Center. As a reminder, please silence or power off all mobile phones, audio/video recording devices, and other similar electronic devices. The performers, and your fellow audience members, will greatly appreciate it. Thank you, and enjoy the performance!

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 an audience services representative to request services.