Senior Recital

Grace Kawamura, violin

Judy Cole, piano

Wednesday, May 1, 2013
8:00 p.m.

Dr. Bobbie Bailey & Family Performance Center
Morgan Concert Hall

One Hundred Thirty-ninth Concert of the 2012-2013 Season
Welcome to the Kennesaw State University School of Music

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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. Welcome!

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Kennesaw State University
School of Music
Audrey B. and Jack E. Morgan, Sr. Concert Hall
May 1, 2013

Violin Sonata in G Major, K. 301         Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart
I. Allegro con spirito
II. Allegro

The Lark Ascending         Ralph Vaughan Williams
(1872-1958)

Passacaglia in G minor
On a Theme by Handel for Violin and Viola
Johan Halvorsen
(1864-1935)

Rachael Keplin, viola

Violin Sonata No. 3 in D minor, Op. 108         Johannes Brahms
I. Allegro
II. Adagio

Three Preludes         George Gershwin
II. Andante con moto e poco rubato
trans. Heifetz
I. Allegro ben ritmato e deciso

This recital is presented in partial fulfillment of requirements for the degree
Bachelor of Music in Performance.
Ms. Kawamura studies violin with Helen Kim.
Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart - *Violin Sonata in G Major, K. 301*

In his youth, Mozart spent much of his time traveling. His father, Leopold, devoted his efforts to find a position worthy of his son’s talents, so the family spent many years touring to various cities. It was during the last of these extended tours, which lasted from September 1777 to January 1779, that Mozart composed his Sonata in G Major, K. 301 on February 1778 in Mannheim, Germany. This sonata is one of four in his Opus 1 collection and was published in Paris.

The sonata consists of two movements. The first, *Allegro con spirito*, opens with the violin stating the sweet and flowing principal theme, accompanied by a steady, eight-note pattern from the piano. The roles then switch, the piano having the melody and the violin acting as the accompanist. It is in this moment that shows that this sonata is a piece of equal partners; both parts share the same responsibilities in the music making. This opening movement is in sonata form (ABA').

The second movement, *Allegro*, opens with the piano now stating the main theme with the violin acting as its accompanist. The melody, a charming dance-like tune, is passed to the violin and undergoes a series of variations as the piece progresses. The middle section, which is in the parallel key of g minor, briefly presents a new character and soon returns to the main theme in the original key of G major.

Ralph Vaughan Williams - *The Lark Ascending*

*The Lark Ascending* is a tone poem by the English composer, Ralph Vaughan Williams, inspired by George Meredith’s poem of the same name. Vaughan Williams included this excerpt of the poem in the flyleaf of the published music:

He rises and begins to round,
He drops the silver chain of sound,
Of many links without a break,
In chirrup, whistle, slur and shake.

For singing till his heaven fills,
’Tis love of earth that he instils,
And ever winging up and up,
Our valley is his golden cup
And he the wine which overflows
to lift us with him as he goes.

Till lost on his aerial rings
In light, and then the fancy sings.

The music embodies the bird’s flight, calls, and ascension through swift runs of the violin. Vaughan Williams utilizes the pentatonic scale and various techniques such as *sul tasto*, which gives the opening its light, airy quality. He also allows extension of meter by eliminating bar lines in the expansive cadenzas, giving the violin liberty in tempo and phrasing.
Johan Halvorsen - *Passacaglia in G minor*

Johan Halvorsen, a Norwegian composer, violinist, and conductor, took the passacaglia from a concluding movement of one of George Frederic Handel’s Suites for harpsichord and arranged it for violin and viola or cello. Halvorsen takes the same bass line of Handel’s passacaglia and follows the piece’s general design through the variations, but adds a Romantic flare to the articulations, dynamics, and tempo markings. The piece develops through a series of variations that display an array of technical challenges for both performers such as *spiccato*, *saltando*, double stops, *pizzicato*, and dazzling runs.

Johannes Brahms - *Violin Sonata No. 3 in D minor*

Brahms’ *Violin Sonata No. 3 in D minor* is the last of his violin sonatas and was composed between 1878 and 1888. The sonata was dedicated to Brahms’ friend and colleague, Hans von Bülow, and was premiered by Jeno Hubay on violin and the composer himself at the piano. Unlike his previous two violin sonatas, this sonata comprises of four movements.

The first movement, *Allegro*, opens with a haunting melody from the violin accompanied with syncopated rhythms from the piano. The piece ventures on to sweeter, more optimistic melodies, but only to return to the piece’s central agitated character. After the turbulent development and a heroic arrival on the recapitulation, the *sotto voce* theme from the exposition briefly returns and the piece ends with the statement of the first subject cascading down three octaves, resolving on a D major cadence. This lead directly in to the second movement, which is in the parallel key of D major.

The second movement’s character is romantic and nostalgic. The warmth of the opening statement of the main theme is achieved by the violin playing solely on the G string, the lowest of the violin’s strings. The movement undergoes through a series of double stop thirds in the violin. Then, in the home key of D major, the piece finally reaches the third and final impassioned statement of the climactic theme. A brief reflection of the opening theme then leads to its subdued conclusion.

George Gershwin - *Three Preludes*

Gershwin’s *Three Preludes* are short piano pieces that were transcribed by the legendary solo violinist, Jascha Heifetz. The preludes are popular encore pieces played by violinists around the globe, and have been arranged for other solo instruments and even various ensembles. These three works demonstrate a different side of the violin repertoire through its jazzy rhythms, harmonies, and lazy *glissandos* and are prime examples of Gershwin’s talent for writing “catchy” and “sing-able” tunes.
Grace Kawamura started playing violin at the age of 10. Along with her studies with violinist Helen Kim at Kennesaw State University in Georgia, she has received training from various musicians, including Jessica Wu (Vega String Quartet), William Pu (Atlanta Symphony Orchestra), and David Perry (Aspen Trio). During the summer of 2011, she attended Killington Music Festival in Vermont where she received training from Daniel Andai (Miami Symphony Orchestra), Karin Brown (Baltimore Symphony Orchestra), David Rubinstein (Boston Philharmonic) and Christof Huebner (Orpheus Chamber Orchestra).

She has held positions as concertmaster for Kennesaw State University’s Symphony Orchestra, Emory Youth Symphony Orchestra, and assistant concertmaster for the All College Orchestra of the Georgia Music Educators Association Conference in Savannah, GA. Grace has performed for organizations in the Metro-Atlanta area such as the Atlanta Steinway Society, Atlanta Symphony Orchestra’s Encore Atlanta, Women’s Commerce Club, and the Gwinnett Chamber of Commerce, and in 2011 completed a three-concert tour in China, including the Central Conservatory of Beijing.

An avid chamber musician, Grace has been coached by ensembles such as eighth blackbird, Pacifica String Quartet, Ying Quartet, Aspen String Trio, and Vega String Quartet. She is also a coach for the Georgia Youth Symphony Orchestra’s chamber program. As a soloist, she has appeared with Kennesaw State University’s Philharmonic Orchestra and was a finalist in the university’s concerto competition for two consecutive years. In addition to performing, Grace enjoys teaching private lessons for students of all ages. Grace also has taken an interest in conducting and studies with Dr. Michael Alexander, director of orchestral studies at Kennesaw State University, and has recently conducted the KSU Orchestra in the university’s Concerto Competition Winners concert.

Grace is a senior and is a four-year recipient of the Flo Bruns/Women’s Commerce Club Scholarship and works as the Kennesaw State University Orchestra’s librarian. She will graduate from Kennesaw State University in May with a Bachelor of Music degree in violin performance. Next school year, Grace will be attending University of Michigan’s School of Music, Theatre and Dance to pursue a Master of Music degree in violin performance where she was also offered a graduate fellowship award. Aside from music, Grace’s other interests include photography, theatre, Sudoku, and New York Times crossword puzzles.
Our Faculty

**Director**
Michael Alexander, Interim Director

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

**Brass and Percussion**
Karin Bliznik, Trumpet
Doug Lindsey, Trumpet
Jason Eklund, Horn
Thomas Witte, Horn
George Curran, Trombone
Tom Gibson, Trombone
Bernard Flythe, Tuba/Euphonium
Michael Moore, Tuba
Justin Chesarek, Jazz Percussion
John Lawless, Percussion

**Strings**
Helen Kim, 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
Russell Young, Opera and Musical Theatre
Eileen Moremen, Opera
Michael Alexander, Orchestras
John Culvahouse, Wind Ensembles
David T. Kehler, Wind Ensembles
Charles Laux, Orchestras
Oral Moses, Gospel Choir
Wes Funderburk, Jazz Ensembles
Sam Skelton, Jazz Ensembles
Marc Miller, Jazz Combos
Justin Chesarek, Jazz Combos

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Eileen Moremen
Oral Moses
Valerie Walters
Jana Young
Russell Young, Vocal Coach

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Tyrone Jackson, Jazz Piano
John Marsh
David Watkins
Susan White
Soo hyun Yun

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Edward Eanes
David T. Kehler
Alison Mann
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Barbara Hammond
Charles Laux
Hollie Lawing
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Terri Talley
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Jennifer Mitchell
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Benjamin Wadsworth

**Chamber Music**
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Charae Krueger
Catherine Lynn
Joseph McFadden
Harry Price
John Warren
Soo hyun Yun

**Ensembles in Residence**
KSU Faculty String Trio
KSU Faculty Chamber Players
Atlanta Symphony Brass Quintet
Atlanta Percussion Trio
Georgia Youth Symphony Orchestra & Chorus
UPCOMING EVENTS

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

Saturday, May 4, 2013
Kennesaw State University Community & Alumni Choir

Saturday, May 18, 2013
Tara Winds
Georgia’s Community Band
7 pm • Morgan Hall

June 2-7, 2013
Summer Arts Intensive
for students entering grades 9-12
Kennesaw State University
http://www.kennesaw.edu/arts/summerintensive/music.html

Saturday, June 29, 2013
Star Spangled Spectacular
featuring
Georgia Symphony Orchestra
8 pm • Campus Green
Free Admission
(Rain date: Sunday, June 30, 8 pm)

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

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.