

Department of Music  
Musical Arts Series  
presents

Joseph Eller, clarinet  
David Watkins, piano

in a

Faculty Artist Recital

with

Guest Artist

John Meisner, violin



Monday, October 22, 2001  
8:00 p.m.  
Stillwell Theater

9<sup>th</sup> concert of the 2001/2002 Musical Arts Series season.

## PROGRAM

Sonata for Clarinet and Piano  
in f minor, Op. 120, No. 1  
I. Allegro appassionato  
II. Andante un poco Adagio  
III. Allegretto grazioso  
IV. Vivace

Johannes Brahms  
(1833 – 1897)

Un Seul for Solo Clarinet (1998)                      Kalmen Opperman

## INTERMISSION

Deuxième Sonate for Clarinet and Piano  
I. Allegro con spiritoso  
II. Adagio  
III. Rondo: Allegretto

François Devienne  
(1759 – 1803)

Contrasts for Violin, Clarinet and Piano (1942)  
I. Verbunkos (Recruiting Dance)  
II. Pihenö (Relaxation)  
III. Sebes (Fast Dance)

Béla Bartók  
(1881 – 1945)



## FACULTY ARTISTS

Assistant Professor of Clarinet, **Joseph Eller**, is currently in his fourth year at Kennesaw State University. Along with his clarinet studio position, he is coordinator of the undergraduate chamber music program and a member of the music theory faculty. He is also in his fifth season as principal clarinetist of the Cobb Symphony Orchestra.

A native of Ypsilanti, Michigan, Mr. Eller received a Bachelor of Music degree in performance from Eastern Michigan University. He received his Masters in performance, with a minor emphasis in music theory, from Louisiana State University. Mr. Eller has worked toward a Doctorate of Musical Arts degree at both LSU and the Peabody Conservatory of Music in Baltimore.

Mr. Eller is an active soloist giving recitals and soloing with groups throughout the country. His performances have taken him to many performing venues, including numerous colleges and universities. He will be performing at the Georgia Music Educators Association annual convention in Savannah, Georgia, in January 2002. In November 1999, Mr. Eller had the privilege of working under the tutelage of composer David Maslanka for several days in preparation of the performance of several of Maslanka's works. The performance of his *Fourth Piece for Clarinet and Piano* was a world premiere.

Mr. Eller currently plays extra with the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra, the Atlanta Symphony Woodwind Quintet and numerous other orchestras throughout the southeastern United States. He served as principal clarinetist with the 214<sup>th</sup> Army Band in Atlanta, Georgia, from November 1996 through July 2000. He is also a member of the newly formed professional chamber wind ensemble, Phoenix, which is primarily comprised of musicians from the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra and the Atlanta Opera Orchestra.

Mr. Eller founded KSU's annual clarinet symposium in 1999. Past guest artists have been Laura Ardan, Ted Gursch, Daniel Silver and Steven Cohen. The 2002 guest will be clarinet soloist Richard Hawkins. The events of the festival include clinics, master classes and recitals for students and/or professionals invited throughout the southeastern United States.

Mr. Eller's primary teachers were Laura Ardan, principal clarinetist of the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra; Steven Barta, principal of the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra; Steven Cohen, principal of the Louisiana Philharmonic Orchestra; Ted Oien, principal of the Detroit Symphony Orchestra; and Armand Abramson, former principal of the Israel Philharmonic.

Mr. Eller is a member of Pi Kappa Lambda, the International Clarinet Society, the College Music Society and the American Federation of Musicians. In his spare time, he enjoys playing and coaching ice hockey.

**David Watkins** is on the piano faculty at Kennesaw State University. He has also served on the summer artist faculty of the Eastern Music Festival. He earned the Bachelor of Music and Master of Music degrees from the New England Conservatory of Music in Boston. He has studied and coached with many renowned artists including Lucille Monaghan, Veronica Jochum, Miklos Schwalb, Robert Helps, Seymour Bernstein, Gary Wolf, Ivan Davis and Lorin Hollander. Mr. Watkins is certified as a master teacher by the Music Teachers National Association. He was President of the American Matthey Association 1994-1998 and was president of Georgia Music Teachers Association from 1994-1996. He was pianist for the Atlanta Church of Religious Science for over seventeen years.

Mr. Watkins has performed on the national convention programs of the College Music Society (St. Louis and Toronto), Music Teachers National Association (Little Rock and Nashville) and the American Matthey Association (Penn State University). He presented a lecture recital on the *Petrarch Sonnets* by Liszt at the 1998 National MTNA Convention in Nashville, Tennessee. He also appeared in recital at the 1988 GMTA state convention. His students have received recognition on state, national and international levels. Mr. Watkins has released two commercial recordings on the ACA Digital label.

Mr. Watkins is an active soloist, accompanist and chamber music performer with an unusually varied repertoire at his command. He has performed with the Atlanta Virtuosi Chamber Ensemble in and around his home base of Atlanta and has made appearances with them in such prestigious places as the University of Mexico and the North American Cultural Institute in Mexico City. He has been soloist in the Liszt Concerto No. 1, Rachmaninoff Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini, second and third concerti, and the Concerto No. 1 by Tchaikovsky with the Cobb Symphony Orchestra. He has appeared as soloist with the Atlanta Ballet Orchestra in Tchaikovsky Concerto No. 3. In April 1999, he performed the Rachmaninoff Third Concerto with the DeKalb Symphony Orchestra. In October 2000, he returned to perform Tchaikovsky's Concerto No. 1 with this orchestra.

He has performed solo recitals throughout the United States, from California to Massachusetts, under the auspices of many colleges, universities and community concert series, including the Eastern Music Festival, University of Tennessee, University of Georgia, Emory University, Wheaton College, the Atlanta Music Club, Guilford College, San Jose State University and other venues. He has also performed regularly with cellist Roger Drinkall; the duo toured throughout the Midwest and South under the auspices of Allied Concert Services. Mr. Watkins has accompanied Metropolitan Opera sopranos Irene Jordan, Linda Zoghby and Patricia Craig in recital. Mr. Watkins made his solo recital debut in New York at Carnegie Recital Hall in May 1986. Mr. Watkins is an international Steinway Artist.

## GUEST ARTIST

**John Meisner**, violinist with the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra, is a graduate of Indiana University and the State University of New York at Stony Brook. His teachers have included James Buswell, Josef Gingold and Joyce Robbins. A former member of the Harrington String Quartet (in residence at West Texas A&M University), Mr. Meisner has performed in chamber music concerts throughout the United States. He has appeared as soloist with the Dallas Chamber Orchestra and the Amarillo Symphony, the latter with which he served as Concertmaster from 1991-1996. Additionally, he has held positions with the orchestras of Denver, St. Louis and Fort Worth.

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# Upcoming Events at KSU

in  
Music

**Sunday, October 28**

Vanessa Cheverez, flute  
Junior Recital  
3 pm Music Building Recital Hall

**November 13 – 18**

Sweeney Todd  
8 pm Stillwell Theater

**Tuesday, November 27**

The Georgia Young Singers  
7 pm Stillwell Theater

**Saturday, December 1**

Premiere Series  
Denyce Graves, holiday concert  
8 pm Stillwell Theater

**Tuesday, December 4**

KSU Chorale  
8 pm Kennesaw United Methodist Church

**Wednesday, December 5**

KSU Jazz Ensemble  
8 pm Stillwell Theater

**Thursday, December 6**

KSU Wind Ensemble  
8 pm Stillwell Theater

**Friday, January 25**

David Watkins, piano  
Steinway Dedication Reception  
8 pm Stillwell Theater

**Saturday, January 26**

Keyboard Conversations  
Steinway Dedication Reception  
8 pm Stillwell Theater