

**Upcoming Events at KSU
in
Music**

Sunday March 5
Masterclass and
Guest Recital
***American Horn Quartet &
The Horns of the ASO***
4:00pm Masterclass
8:00 pm Recital
Stillwell Theater

Sunday, March 19
Faculty Recital
***John Pritchard, tenor
Robert Henry, accompanist***
3:00 pm Stillwell Theater

Monday, March 20
Guest Recital
Kevin Hampton, piano
8:00 pm Stillwell Theater

Monday, March 27
Faculty Recital
Cathy Lynn, viola
8:00 pm Music Building Recital Hall

Tuesday, March 28
Department of Music
Concerto Competition Finals
8:00 pm Stillwell Theater

Tuesday, April 4
Kennesaw State University
Saxophone Ensemble
8:00 pm Music Building Recital Hall

Wednesday, April 5
Faculty Recital
***Edward Eanes, violin
David Watkins, piano***
6:00 pm Music Building Recital Hall



Kennesaw State University
Department of Music
Musical Arts Series

presents

A Faculty Recital

“A Cycle of Cycles”

Karen Parks, soprano

David Watkins, piano

Sunday, February 26, 2006

3:00pm

Music Building Recital Hall

34th concert of the 2005/2006 Musical Arts Series season

Program

Kennesaw State University Faculty Recital
February 26, 2006
3 PM
Music Building Recital Hall

Liederkreis, Op. 39

Robert Schumann
(1810-1856)

In der Fremde (In Foreign Lands)

From my homeland, in the wake of red lightning
The clouds are drifting here,
But my father and mother are long dead,
No one knows me there anymore.
How soon, oh how soon will the quietude come,
When I too will rest,
And above me rustles the lovely solitude of the woods,
And no one knows me here anymore...

Intermezzo (Intermezzo)

Your image wondrously lovely
I carry deep in my heart,
It looks so fresh and cheerful
Upon me all the time.
My heart sings silently within itself
An old, beautiful tune,
That soars into the air
And hurriedly flies to you.

Waldesgespräch (Dialogue in the Woods)

"It is already late, it is already cold,
Why do you ride lonely through the woods?
The wood is large, you are alone,
You lovely bride! I will guide you home."
"Great is men's cunning and deceit,
With sorrow my heart has been broken,
The hunter's horn sounds here and yon,
Oh flee! Oh flee! You know not who I am."
"So richly adorned are steed and woman,
So wondrously fair the young body;
I know you now, may God help me!
You are the sorceress Lorelei!"
"You know me well, from the rock on high
My castle looks silently into the Rhine.
It is already late, it is already cold,
Nevermore will you leave this wood."

of Georgia, Emory University, Wheaton College, the Atlanta Music Club, Guilford College, San Jose State University and other venues. *He* 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.

MUSIC at KSU

The Wind Ensemble is one part of a comprehensive undergraduate music program at Kennesaw State University. KSU's thriving student ensembles also include the KSU Orchestra, Chamber Singers and Chorale, Jazz Ensemble, Opera/Musical Theatre productions, Chamber Music program and the KSU Pep Band. Student enrollment in these ensembles has risen 270% since 1997.

The orchestral program under the direction of Michael Alexander performs a broad repertoire of symphonic, concerto, oratorio, and operatic repertoire. The jazz program, led by Sam Skelton, combines big band and combo performances with classes in improvisation. Opera/Musical Theatre productions, guided by Russell Young, are staged each year and include such titles as Puccini's *Gianni Schicchi*, Menotti's *The Old Maid and the Thief*, Bernstein's *Candide*, and musical theatre titles such as *Sweeney Todd* and *Pippin*. The choral program, guided by Leslie Blackwell, includes the KSU Chamber Singers, an ensemble recently invited to perform at the 2006 Georgia Music Educators Association In-Service. KSU's distinguished instrumental faculty collaborate as coaches to support a vibrant student chamber music program. To affirm the focus upon chamber music, each semester KSU's two resident ensembles, the Atlanta Symphony Brass Quintet and the Atlanta Percussion Trio, join an increasingly active faculty ensemble, the Kennesaw Chamber Players, to give full recitals, lectures, and teach masterclasses. Finally, KSU's 2004 NCAA Division II Championship Basketball season provided the ideal launch for KSU's athletic bands.

KSU presents more than 150 musical performances each year. As one of three units in the College of the Arts, the music program collaborates with KSU's nationally accredited programs in Visual Arts and Theatre and Performance Studies to sustain a culture where breadth and depth meet rigor and joy.

David Watkins

David Watkins is director of keyboard studies at Kennesaw State University. He has also served on the summer artist faculty of the Eastern Music Festival. He was a winner of the prestigious Atlanta Music Club Scholarship to attend the New England Conservatory of Music in Boston, where he earned the Bachelor of Music and Master of Music degrees in Piano Performance. 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. In addition to his duties at KSU, Mr. Watkins continues to perform and lecture. He presented a piano clinic at the GMEA State Conference in January 2003. In March 2003 he presented a lecture-recital on Liszt's Transcendental Etudes 10, 11, and 12 at the MTNA National Convention in Salt Lake City, Utah. In the 2001-2002 season, he performed Richard Strauss' *Burleske* with Orchestra Atlanta. In October 2003, he performed Tchaikovsky's *Piano Concerto No. 1* with the Atlanta Community Symphony Orchestra. In May 2004, he performed Gershwin's *Rhapsody in Blue* with the Atlanta Wind Symphony.

Mr. Watkins has performed on the national convention programs of the Music Teachers National Association (Little Rock, Nashville, Salt Lake City), the American Matthey Association (Dayton Art Institute, San Jose State University, Penn State University), and the College Music Society (St. Louis, Toronto). 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 appeared as soloist with the Atlanta Ballet Orchestra, Cobb Symphony Orchestra, Atlanta Wind Symphony, DeKalb Symphony 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

Die Stille (The Silence)

No one knows and no one divines it,
How happy I am!
Oh, if but one knew it,
None other should ever know!
It is not as still out in the snow,
As silent and as hushed
Are not the stars on high,
As the secret thoughts of mine.
I wish I were a little bird
Flying over the sea,
Over the sea and further on,
Till in Heaven I would be!

Mondnacht (Moonlit Night)

It seemed as if the sky
Had silently kissed the earth,
That she in the shimmer of blossoms
Could only dream of him.
The breeze blew over the fields,
The grain stalks gently surged,
The forests rustled softly,
So starbright was the night.
And my soul unfolded
Its pinions so wide,
Flew over the silent lands
As if it were flying home.

Schöne Fremde (Beautiful Stranger)

The treetops rustle and shiver,
As if at this time now,
By the half buried walls,
The old gods were making the round.
Here behind the myrtle bushes,
In hidden dusky splendor,
What do you say, confused as in dreams,
To me, fantastic night?
The stars all sparkle on me
With a burning glance of love,
Intoxicated, the distance speaks,
As if speaking of future great happiness!

Auf einer Burg (In a Castle)

Gone to sleep while keeping watch
Sits up there the ancient knight;
Over yonder rain is falling,
And the wood rustles through the trellis.
Inward grown his beard and hair,
Turned to stone his breast and ruffle,
He sits many hundred years
Aloft in the silent cell.
Outside it is still and peaceful,
Everyone has moved to the valley,
Little woodbirds lonely sing
In the empty window arches.
Down below a wedding party sails
In the sunshine on the Rhine;
The musicians play so gaily,
And the lovely bride is weeping.

In der Fremde (In Foreign Lands)

I hear the brooklets rushing
In the forest here and yon,
In the forest, midst the rushing,
I know not where I am.
The nightingales are singing
Here in the solitude,
As if they wanted to tell
About the beautiful old days.
The moon's shimmering light is moving,
As if I could see below
The castle lying in the valley,
Yet it is so far away!
As if there might in the garden
Filled with roses white and red,
My sweetheart be waiting for me,
Yet she has been so long dead...

Wehmut (Melancholy)

Sometimes I may be singing
As if I were full of joy,
But secretly tears are flowing,
And then my heart feels free.
The nightingales will sing,
When spring breezes play outside,
Their melody of yearning
Out of their prison's tomb.
Then all the hearts are listening,
And everyone is glad,
But none can feel the sorrows,
The bitter grief in the song.

Ebony on Arcadia, Symphony of Spirituals, and two solo recordings *Nocturne* and *Spiritually Yours, A Private Collection*

Ms. Parks made her San Francisco Opera debut in *Die Frau Ohne Schatten* conducted by Christoph von Dohnanyi. She toured as Micaela in *Carmen* with the Western Opera Theatre, performed Catherine in Offenbach's *Pomme d'Api* at the Brooklyn Academy of Music with the Orchestra of St. Luke's and performed Marenka in *The Bartered Bride* with the Opera Theatre of Pittsburgh.

Ms. Parks has been featured in major opera houses, recital and concert halls in the United States and Europe, including Italy, Spain, Germany, Austria, England, France, Switzerland, Denmark, Sweden, Finland, Hungary and Estonia. She has sung Handel's *Messiah* and Bach's *Magnificat* with several orchestras and was a featured soloist at the Music-Aids-Harlem Benefit at New York's Alice Tully Hall.

At the invitation of Jim Nabors, Karen Parks appeared with the singer in "*Friends and Nabors*." She represented classical music for the opening gala, "*An Evening With Dick Clark*," at the National Music Center in Lenox, Massachusetts and sang the title role in the world premiere of Ben Yarmolinsky's *Anita*, based on the Anita Hill/Clarence Thomas hearings, for the Friends and Enemies of New Music.

In addition to being a Fulbright scholar, Ms. Parks is also a member of Phi Kappa Phi national academic honor society and Mu Phi Epsilon. She is the recipient of the Cadeau Foundation Grant, which she used for study with renowned soprano Renata Scotto.

Ms. Parks received a Bachelor of Music Degree at Furman University, a Master of Music Degree at the University of Texas at Austin and pursued postgraduate studies in Vocal Performance and Vocal Pedagogy at the University of California at Santa Barbara.

Zwielicht (Twilight)

Nightfall starts to spread its pinions,
Fearfully the trees are moving,
Clouds drift by like heavy dreams,
What does all this dreading mean?
If you dearly love a doe,
Do not let it graze alone,
Hunters roam in the woods, and blow their horns,
Voices wander here and yon.
If you have a friend on earth,
Do not trust him at this hour,
Friendly with his eyes and lips,
He plots war in treacherous peace.
What today goes down so tired,
Rises newly born tomorrow.
Many things are lost at night-time,
Be on guard, alert and watchful!

Im Walde (In the Forest)

Along the mountain a wedding party moved,
I heard the singing of birds,
Many riders flashed by, the bugle called,
That was a merry hunt!
And ere I knew, it had all faded,
Night covers the land around,
From the mountains only the forest still rustles,
And I shiver in the depth of my heart...

Frühlingsnacht (Spring Night)

Above the garden through the breezes
I heard birds of passage fly.
That means scents of spring are coming,
On the grounds the blossoms start.
I would like to shout for you, to weep,
It seems to me it cannot be!
Ancient miracles shine again
With the moonlight in my room.
And the moon, the stars proclaim it,
And the woods rustle in a dream,
And the nightingales are singing:
"She is yours, she is yours!"

Karen Parks

Soprano Karen Parks has received international acclaim as one of today's most gifted and versatile young vocalists. She has been recognized internationally for her opera, concert, recital, Broadway and classical jazz performances. Ms. Parks returned to the Savonlinna Opera Festival for three seasons as Nedda in Leoncavallo's *Pagliacci* and was also featured in Orff's *Carmina Burana*. Other recent highlights include Verdi's *Requiem*, Dvorak's *Te Deum* and Mahler's *Second Symphony* with the Fort Wayne Philharmonic and the Greenville Symphony, Beethoven's *Ninth Symphony* with the Charlotte Symphony, the role of Harriet Tubman in two operas (Leo Edwards' *Harriet* and Dorothy Rudd Moore's *Frederick Douglass*) with Opera Ebony, and debut performances at Carnegie Hall (Weill Hall) and with the Boston Pops. Ms. Parks made her film debut in the PBS documentary *Porgy and Bess: An American Voice*. She has performed a staged symphonic version of the Gershwin opera with many symphonies both nationally and internationally including the Alabama Symphony, the Fort Wayne Philharmonic and the Helsinki Philharmonic (including a televised performance in Estonia for an audience exceeding 10,000). Her film career continues with the role of Leona in the upcoming release by Neil Graves called *Dakar*.

Karen Parks won the prestigious Fulbright Award, which allowed her exclusive study with Maestro Gabriele Pisani at La Scala in Milan, Italy.

Upon the death of Senator Fulbright, for whom the scholarship is named, Ms. Parks was flown from Milan to Berlin to sing a tribute in his honor. The only vocalist selected to perform at the celebration of the 50th Anniversary Gala of the Fulbright Awards at the National Academy of Sciences in Washington, DC, Ms. Parks performed Dominick Argento's chamber work *To Be Sung Upon the Water* with the composer in attendance. She was again asked to perform for the first Fulbright Lifetime Achievement Awards Ceremony held in New York City.

Ms. Parks made her London debut as Cindy Lou (Micaela) in the West End production of *Carmen Jones* (Oscar Hammerstein's reworking of the Bizet Opera) a performance that earned her a Sir Laurence Olivier Award nomination. A featured performer at the dedication of New York's Marian Anderson Theater, she then inaugurated that theatre's first production, *The Telephone*, which she also sang at Merkin Hall with Opera Ebony. Soon thereafter she sang the world premiere of Heikki Sarmanto's *Perfect Harmony*, recorded by Time Warner. Other recordings include *Carmen Jones* on EMI, *Freedom's Journey* with Opera.