

SCHOOL of MUSIC

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Senior Recital

Olivia Kesler, *clarinet*

Emily O'Connor, *clarinet*

Eric Jenkins, *piano*

Thursday, October 22, 2020 | 7:00 PM

Presented virtually from Morgan Concert Hall of the Bailey Performance Center

This recital is presented in partial fulfillment of requirements for the degree
Bachelor of Music in Music Education.

Mses. Kesler and O'Connor study clarinet with Prof. John Warren.

PROGRAM

FRANZ KROMMER (1759-1831)

Concerto for Two Clarinets, Op. 35

I. Allegro

Emily O'Connor, *Bb clarinet*

Olivia Kesler, *Bb clarinet*

Eric Jenkins, *piano*

HEINRICH SUTERMEISTER (1910-1955)

Capriccio

Emily O'Connor, *Bb clarinet*

PHILIPPE GAUBERT (1879-1941)

Fantaisie for Clarinet and Piano

Olivia Kesler, *Bb clarinet*

Eric Jenkins, *piano*

ALUN COOK (b. 1972)

Mad Swans

Olivia Kesler, *Bb clarinet*

Emily O'Connor, *bass clarinet*



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LOUIS CAHUZAC (1880-1960)

Cantilene

Emily O'Connor, *Bb clarinet*

Eric Jenkins, *piano*

FELIX DRAESEKE (1835-1913)

Clarinet Sonata, Op. 38

II. *Adagio ma non troppo*

III. *Scherzo. Allegro molto vivace*

Olivia Kesler, *Bb clarinet*

Eric Jenkins, *piano*

FRANCIS POULENC (1899-1963)

Sonata

I. *Allegretto*

II. *Très calm*

III. *Très animé*

Emily O'Connor, *Bb clarinet*

Eric Jenkins, *piano*

ASTOR PIAZZOLLA (1921-1992)

Histoire du Tango - Cafe 1930

Olivia Kesler, *Eb clarinet*

Grace Liebl, *Bb clarinet*

Emily O'Connor, *bass clarinet*

John Warren, *Bb clarinet*



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PROGRAM NOTES

Concerto for Two Clarinets - Krommer

Franz Krommer was a Czech violinist and composer. He began his studies at a young age with his uncle, Anton Matthias Krommer, learning organ and violin. He began learning music theory and composition on his own time. After traveling to find work, Krommer held many prestigious playing positions and began writing symphonies and chamber music. He composed over 100 pieces and enjoyed writing for both string and wind instruments. Of these compositions for wind instruments, Krommer gave us Concerto in E Flat Major Opus 35 for Two Clarinets in 1802. This piece features two clarinets with equally intricate parts.

Capriccio for Solo Clarinet - Sutermeister

Heinrich Sutermeister was a Swiss composer born in 1910. He studied at The Akademie der Tonkunst in Munich, where he studied under Carl Orff, best known for his studies in Music Education as well as his compositions. Orff encouraged him to pursue a life in composition and he set himself to do so. Sutermeister is most well known for writing Romeo und Julia, which premiered in Dresden, 1940 under the direction of Karl Böhm. Capriccio for Solo Clarinet was commissioned by Concours International d'Exécution Musicale de Genève, a music competition which started in 1939 for the 1947 competition. Since the premiere, this piece has become a staple work for unaccompanied clarinet, while the other 14 works written for this competition did not receive the same fame Sutermeister did. The Sutermeister *Capriccio* for Solo Clarinet is a fun, active play on tempo and style.

Fantaisie for Clarinet and Piano - Gaubert

Philippe Gaubert was a French flutist and composer. He was born in Cahors to an amateur clarinetist and cobbler. Gaubert began taking private lessons from flute pedagogue Paul Taffanel when he was a young boy. When Taffanel began teaching at a conservatory in Paris, Gaubert followed him. He served as first chair flute in the Concerts du Conservatoire and the Paris Opera while still only being a teenager. He later studied composition with Raoul Pugno. Gaubert fought for the French Army in the Battle of Verdun, earning himself the Croix de Guerre (a military cross awarded for bravery in battle), but was discharged soon after due to chronic bronchitis. Gaubert returned to the Conservatoire and served there as the professor of flute. Gaubert continued to teach flute in different locations throughout his life but felt that the demands of his many playing and teaching commitments negatively impacted his flute technique. He stopped teaching in the late 1920s and returned to Paris to continue conducting and composing. Despite the many prestigious positions that he held throughout his life, Gaubert is best known for writing many important works for flute. His music captures the French impressionist style and is largely influenced by Ravel, Franck, and Debussy.



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Mad Swans - Cook

Alun Cook was born in 1972 near Cambridge. His professional music career started when he studied clarinet and saxophone at the Royal Academy of Music in London. Throughout his career, he found himself intrigued by many different music genres, including baroque, classical, rock, jazz, and contemporary. His most popular work, “The Garden of England”, is commonly performed and sold in over 60 countries. *Mad Swans* was originally written for Bb and Bass clarinet, however, due to its popularity, arrangements have been made for bassoon, brass, and so on. The tune features music from various bird-related pieces, including Tchaikovsky’s “Swan Lake” and Saint-Saëns “Carnival of the Animals”. See if you can spot all the references!

Cantilene - Cahuzac

Louis Cahuzac was born in southern France in the year 1880. As a young clarinetist, he studied under Felix Pagès in Toulouse conservatoire and Cyrille Rose in the Paris Conservatory . Cahuzac became one of very few clarinetists to make a career as a performer in the 20th century. His main role was as a performer, however, he is also known for writing some works for clarinet and piano. Among them is *Cantilene*, which “radiates Mediterranean light of Cahuzac's beloved Southern France as well as echo-type effects suggesting open mountainous spaces”. This work was published in 1971 and has become a staple work for clarinet repertoire.

Clarinet Sonata, Op. 38 - Draeseke

Felix Draeseke was born in Coburg, Germany. As a young boy, he was very enthusiastic about music and made his first composition at the age of 8. After gaining full support from his family, he began pursuing a professional career in music in his late teens. He studied at the Leipzig Conservatory for several years but did not feel as though he was progressing as a musician. He moved to the New German School at Weimar and stayed there from 1856 to 1861. The following year, he left Germany for Switzerland and began teaching for many years. Though up until this point Draeseke had limited success as a composer, he found a position at the Dresden Conservatory and gained some financial security. In 1892, he was appointed as a professor at the Royal Saxon Conservatory, and two years later, married one of his students. Draeseke primarily enjoyed writing choral and string music and composed his final orchestral work in 1912. Clarinet Sonata Op. 38 is a lesser-known piece that sounds very reminiscent of Brahms. In addition to the movements played tonight, there are two others entitled *Allegro Moderato* and *Finale. Allegro con brio*. The two movements chosen are a nicely contrasting taste of the larger work.



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Clarinet Sonata - Poulenc

Francis Poulenc was born in France in the year 1899 to a family of musicians. He started piano lessons at age 5 and composed his first piece when he was 18. From there, he met many experienced musicians and eventually found himself as a member of Les Six, an elite group of French composers formed in 1920. Poulenc's Clarinet Sonata was published among a trio of woodwinds sonatas, including one for flute as well as the oboe. These were some of his last works before he died of a sudden heart attack at age 64. The Clarinet Sonata was dedicated to Arthur Honegger, a fellow member of Les Six. This work was premiered by Benny Goodman and Leonard Bernstein in Carnegie Hall, 1963. The music features three movements titled *Allegro Tristamente*, *Romanza*, and *Allegro con Fuoco*.

Cafe 1930 from *Historie du Tango* - Piazzolla

Astor Piazzolla was born in Argentina in 1921 and was an only child. From a young age, he was exposed to various musical genres such as classical, tango, and jazz. He started to play bandoneon when he was 8 years old after his father found one at a local pawn shop. He composed his first piece in 1932 which was titled "La Cantiga", and began taking lessons with famous pianist Bela Wilda. At 18, he was given a performance job with Trolio's Orchestra, which would later be known as one of the best tango orchestras of that time. From there he dedicated his life to music by waking up early in the morning to listen to orchestral rehearsals before going to his nightclub performances in the evenings. He studied composition with Alberto Genestera, and mastered the art of orchestration, and went on to revolutionize tango as a genre. ***Historie of Tango*** was originally written for guitar and flute but has been arranged for various ensembles. The work as a whole features four movements, *Cafe 1930* is the second. This movement showcases an era of tango that was significantly different from that of the past, which was meant more for listening than dancing.

