

# SCHOOL of MUSIC

Where PASSION is *heard*

## Senior Recital

Michael Karantonis, *bass trombone*

Eric Jenkins, *piano*

Tuesday, October 27, 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.

Mr. Karantonis studies bass trombone with Prof. Hollie Lawing Pritchard.

### PROGRAM

ALEXANDER LEBEDEV (1924-1993)

*Concerto Allegro in F*

JOHANN SEBASTIAN BACH (1685-1750)

*Suite I for Violincello solo*

*Menuet I and II*

ERIC EWAZEN (b. 1954)

*Ballade for Bass Trombone and Piano*

MICHAEL KARANTONIS (b. 1998)

*Heart of the Machine*



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## PROGRAM NOTES

### ALEXANDER LEBEDEV (1924-1993)

Lebedev was born in 1924 in the Russian town of Dankov. After finishing school in 1942, he went to join the army. After becoming wounded in battle, Lebedev continued his service in a military band based in Moscow. While in Moscow, he began to study tuba and music theory at the Ippolitov-Ivanof Musical College. From there, Lebedev left the military service and continued his musical studies from 1945 through 1953. From 1953 up to his death in 1993, Lebedev taught tuba and brass chamber music and often performed as a soloist and orchestral performer. Also during this time, two major compositions that he wrote as a student, Concerto in One Movement and Concerto Allegro in F, were published.

### JOHANN SEBASTIAN BACH (1685-1750)

Bach was born in 1685 in Eisenach, Germany. A prominent composer of the Baroque period, Bach composed a plethora of works that continue to influence the world today. His Cello Suites were estimated to have been written between the years 1717 and 1723, and were not popular until the 20th century due to the technical demands. The six suites follow a Baroque structure of six movements: *prelude*, *allemande*, *courante*, *sarabande*, two *menuets/bourées/gavottes*, and a final *gigue*. Since the rise in popularity, Bach's Six Cello Suites have been transcribed for performance on a variety of instruments, including the trombone.

### ERIC EWAZEN (b. 1954)

Ewazen was born in 1954 in Cleveland, Ohio. He holds a B.M. degree from the Eastman School of Music, and M.M and D.M.A degrees from The Juilliard School, where he currently teaches. Ballade for Bass Trombone, Harp and String Orchestra was originally composed as a piece for clarinet. The composer writes:

Outside of my guest cottage was the beautiful Chesapeake Bay. In the balmy summer weather, with the water gently lapping the shore, I wanted to describe this unbelievably peaceful pastorage scene with music. This was the birth of the Ballade. The clarinet sings, floats and soars above gently pulsating harp and string chords. At times the music becomes joyful and energetic, at times soft and prayerful.

In 1996, Charles Vernon, bass trombonist of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, requested Ewazen to transcribe the *Ballade* for Bass trombone. Mr. Vernon premiered the work in 1997 at the International Trombone Association.

### MICHAEL KARANTONIS (b. 1998)

Karantonis was born in 1998 in Marietta, Georgia. After graduating from Lassiter High School in 2017, he went on to pursue a B.M. degree in music education at Kennesaw State University, where he is expected to graduate from in 2021. Karantonis has composed a small number of works, ranging from trombone duets, chamber music, and electronic works. *Heart of the Machine* is his first major composition, combining electronic accompaniment with solo bass trombone.

