Kennesaw State University

Upcoming Music Events

Thursday, October 8
Kennesaw State University
Jazz Ensembles
8:00 pm • Bailey Performance Center Performance Hall

Tuesday, October 20
Kennesaw State University
Choral Ensembles
8:00 pm • Bailey Performance Center Performance Hall

Thursday, October 22
Kennesaw State University
Wind Ensemble and Concert Band
8:00 pm • Bailey Performance Center Performance Hall

Friday, October 23
Kennesaw State University Faculty Recital
Mary Akerman, classical guitar
8:00 pm • Bailey Performance Center Performance Hall

Tuesday, October 27
Kennesaw State University
Male Chorus Day concert
7:30 pm • Bailey Performance Center Performance Hall

Friday, October 30
Kennesaw State University
Classical guitar Ensemble
8:00 pm • Bailey Performance Center Performance Hall

For the most current information, please visit
http://www.kennesaw.edu/arts/events/

We welcome all guests with special needs and offer the following services:
accessible seating, easy access, companion restroom locations, assisted listening
devices. Please contact an audience services representative to request services

Kennesaw State University

Symphony Orchestra

Concert Competition Winners

Peter Gustav Westin II, composer
Michael Alcorn, tenor
Noah Vece, saxophone

Wednesday, October 7, 2009
8:00 pm
Dr. Bobbie Bailey & Family Performance Center

Twelfth Concert of the 2009-2010 season

Dean Joseph D. Meeks

School of Music
Kennesaw State University
School of Music
Performance Hall
Symphony Orchestra

Concerto Competition Winners

PROGRAM

Suite in G

Peter Gustav Westin II
(b. 1986)

III. Framsteg: Rhapsody on Danish and Norwegian Themes

“Here I stand” from The Rake’s Progress

Igor Stravinsky
(1882-1971)

Michael Alcorn, tenor

Concertino da Camera for Saxophone and Orchestra

Jaques Ibert
(1890-1962)

I. Allegro con moto
II. Larghetto – Animato molto

Noah Vece, saxophone

INTERMISSION

Symphony in C

Georges Bizet
(1838-1875)

I. Allegro vivo
II. Adagio
III. Allegro vivace
IV. Allegro vivace

Michael Alexander

Conductor

Michael Alexander is the Orchestra Director at Kennesaw State University and serves as the Music Director of the Cobb Symphony Orchestra and Georgia Youth Symphony Orchestras. Previously he has also served as Music Director of the Green Bay Youth Symphony Orchestras and as the Orchestra Director at Ripon College. Active as a guest conductor, he has conducted in Europe, Australia and at various places in the United States, including a subscription performance with the Central Wisconsin Symphony Orchestra in 2002, the Maikop Symphony Orchestra and the Novgorod String Orchestra in Russia, the Bacau Philharmonic in Romania and the Catania Music Festival in Italy in 2003. In the summer of 2004 and 2009, he served as Music Director for the Madison Savoyards Opera Company and in 2007 as guest conductor of the Illinois Valley Symphony Orchestra. He has also appeared as a guest conductor four times with the Summer Music Clinic Orchestra at the University of Wisconsin and with the 2003-2006 Maud-Powell Music Festival Orchestra in LaSalle, IL.

In the summer of 2003, Dr. Alexander completed his Doctor of Musical Arts Degree at the University of Wisconsin-Madison in orchestral conducting. While at UW, he studied with David E. Becker and served as an Assistant Conductor with the Symphony and Chamber Orchestras and UW Opera. Previously he has served on the faculties at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point. Dedicated to music education, for two years Dr. Alexander conducted the Orchestra at Verona Area High School outside of Madison, Wisconsin; served on the artistic staff of the Wisconsin Youth Symphony Orchestra; and has contributed articles to the Teaching Music Through Performance book series. He has conducted several District Honor Orchestras and under his direction the KSU Orchestra has performed at the 2009 Georgia Music Educators Association Annual In-Service and will host and perform at the 2010 College Orchestra Directors Association National Conference.
Kennesaw State University Symphony Orchestra

The Kennesaw State University Symphony Orchestra began in the fall of 2004. The orchestra performs a wide variety of repertoire from all time periods and styles. Students in the orchestra are made up of music majors and non-music majors with an interest in orchestral repertoire and come from distinguished high school programs and honor ensembles including the Atlanta Symphony Youth Orchestra, Georgia Youth Symphony Orchestra, Emory Youth Symphony Orchestra, Atlanta Youth Wind Symphony, and Metropolitan Youth Symphony Orchestra.

In 2009 the KSU Orchestra was invited to perform at the Georgia Music Educators Association In-Service Conference and will host and perform at the 2010 College Orchestra Directors Association National Conference. Other highlights of the 2009-2010 year include a residency and performance with violinist David Perry.

In its brief time, the KSU Orchestra has already collaborated with several groups and artists. Guest soloists have included Charles Neidich, Clarinet Professor at the Juilliard School; David Watkins, Robert Henry, and Alpin Hong, piano; Helen Kim, violin; Cathy Lynn and Allyson Fleck, violas; Jana Young, soprano; Charae Krueger, cello; and Doug Sommer, bass. In addition, each year the orchestra accompanies the winners of the KSU Concerto Competition. Guest conductors in the past have been Bridget Reischl, Director of Orchestral Activities at Oberlin College and Music Director of the Green Bay Symphony; Laura Jackson, Conducting Fellow with the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra and Kevin McMahon, Music Director of the Wheaton Symphony. Other collaborations have included performances of Haydn’s Lord Nelson Mass and Mozart's Requiem with the KSU Choruses and several productions with the KSU Opera Program.

The KSU Orchestra has also been fortunate to benefit from some exciting residencies including the Pro Arte Quartet, the Miami String Quartet, the American Horn Quartet; Alan Baer, Principal Tuba with the New York Philharmonic; violinists Joseph Lin and Peter Zazofsky; Albert Laszlo, Professor of Bass at Juilliard and Cincinnati Conservatory; and several members of the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra. The orchestra has also collaborated with several area schools including performances at Harrison High School and Kennesaw Mountain High School and has performed at Brenau University’s Pearce Auditorium.

For more information on the KSU Orchestra contact Dr. Michael Alexander at malex919@kennesaw.edu or by phone at 678-797-2141.

Program Note

Suite in G

III. Framsteg: Rhapsody on Danish and Norwegian Themes

This movement is of great importance and meaning to me; it is my first memorial piece. On January 13, 2007 my uncle, Guy Floyd Gordon, passed away from Leukemia. He was an avid music lover and my greatest musical inspiration. The main title, Framsteg, is Swedish for “progress, forward motion…” and was chosen because of the piece’s lack of a true resolution or feeling of completion until the very end.

After a lamentation heard in the English horn, accompanied by woodwind choirs, and tremolo strings, the first theme is a Danish song simply titled Ballade, heard in the cellos and basses in octaves. The second theme is Norwegian song titled “Dance Song”, again introduced by the English horn, set to a lilting 7/8 rhythm. These two themes rotate throughout changing backgrounds building up to a choral-like statement of the first theme occurring at split tempos. The coda flourishes to an end with triumphant brass and percussion, and singing strings and woodwinds. One last breath of the initial theme is given in the woodwinds before the punctuating final two notes.

Biographical Notes

Peter Westin composer

Peter Gustav Westin II was born in Ft. Benning, GA. His mother is of Scot-Irish decent and his father is Swedish. He graduated from Harrison High School in May 2004 and started at Kennesaw State the following Fall. He became interested in composing in high school, but did not start formal training until starting lessons in January 2009 with Dr. Laurence Sherr. Earlier this year he had two works performed: Due Pezzi in forma di Fugatto, a two movement piece for string quartet performed by KSU students in recital; Septet No. 1 in B-flat Major (And Then I Found You...), a piece for flute, oboe, clarinet, horn, trombone, euphonium, and violin written as a gift for the marriage of Dr. William K. and Debbie Farrar.
Michael Alcorn recently received a Bachelor of Music in Performance from Kennesaw State University. He has participated in many master classes including: Sylvia McNair, David Daniels, Jennifer Larmore, Sue Ellen Kuzma, Erie Mills and Williams Fred Scott. While attending KSU, Michael was involved in numerous Opera Workshop performances as well as three full Opera productions. He played Jack Point in the 2008 production of Gilbert & Sullivan’s *The Yeoman of the Guard*, and Fenton in the 2009 production of Otto Nicolai’s *The Merry Wives of Windsor*. Alcorn was honored as the Conference Recitalist for Georgia Music Teacher’s Association annual conference in both 2007 and 2009. He was a finalist in the 2008 Concerto Competition. Alcorn’s goals and aspirations are to attend a graduate program for Vocal Performance, pursue a performance career, and explore all facets of the classical repertoire. He is a student of Valerie Walters.

Noah Vece has been playing the saxophone since the age of 12, being involved in many various ensembles over the years from wind octets to saxophone ensembles. He has consistently been a principal member of the GMEA All-State, Honor, and Clinic bands, and now plays in the Kennesaw State University Wind Ensemble. In June of 2006, he was also invited to the Georgia Governor's Honors Program as a saxophone major. Outside of Georgia, he has been asked to perform in masterclasses held by the New Century Saxophone Quartet and tenor saxophonist James Houlik. He is currently working towards a music performance degree in saxophone under the guidance of Sam Skelton.