



department of music
EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

STUDENT RECITAL SERIES

presents a

Junior Recital

featuring

Reynol Oyervides, clarinet
Addison Willis, clarinet

with

Yetong Tang, piano

April 18, 2026, 3:00 pm
Doudna Fine Arts Center
Recital Hall

Program

Cantilène	Louis Cahuzac (1880-1960)
Addison Willis, clarinet Yetong Tang, piano	
Sonata for Bass Clarinet and Piano, Op. 40	Michael Kibbe (b. 1945)
Reynol Oyervides, bass clarinet Yetong Tang, piano	
Three Pieces for Clarinet Solo	Igor Stravinsky (1882-1971)
I. ♩=52 II. ♩=168 III. ♩=160	
Addison Willis, clarinet	
Sonata for Clarinet and Piano, FP 184	Francis Poulenc (1899-1963)
I. Allegro trisamente Reynol Oyervides, clarinet Yetong Tang, piano	
II. Romanza Addison Willis, clarinet Yetong Tang, piano	
After You, Mr. Gershwin!	Béla Kovács (1937-2012)
Addison Willis, clarinet Yetong Tang, piano	

Contradanza for 2 Clarinets

Paquito D'Rivera
(b. 1948)
Arr. Walter Lopez

Addison Willis, clarinet
Reynol Oyervides, bass clarinet

Reynol and Addison's Program Notes

Cantilène

Louis Cahuzac (1880-1960)

Louis Cahuzac was a French clarinetist and composer, born on July 12, 1880. In his youth, he studied clarinet with his father, a member of a local amateur band. He went on to study with Cyrille Rose at the Paris Conservatoire, and eventually became a professor there. Cahuzac was a very renowned performer, and one of the few clarinetists who made a career as a soloist in the first part of the 20th century. He made the first recording of Carl Nielsen's Clarinet Concerto and performed with prominent composers, such as Debussy, Hindemith, and Milhaud. Louis Cahuzac passed away August 9, 1960.

Cantilène is one of Cahuzac's most beloved works for clarinet. The piece was written around 1948 for clarinet and orchestra, but was officially published with a piano orchestral reduction in 1971. Staying true to the name (the French word "Cantilène" refers to a simple, song-like melody), the piece has a charming, flowing melody that showcases the clarinetist's tone quality and musical expression. Rubato, delicate phrasing, and subtle changes to the melody create a sense of warmth and introspection throughout.

Sonata, op. 40a for Bass Clarinet and Piano

Michael Kibbe (b.1945)

I. Allegro deciso

Michael Kibbe was born June 16th, 1945, in San Diego, California. Kibbe is an American composer and oboist. Kibbe has composed over 240 concert works and numerous arrangements. His writing covers many different musical styles, with tonal, modal, as well as non-diatonic arrangements. Kibbe's works have been played throughout the United States, Europe, Russia, Mexico, China, and Israel by both professional and University groups.

Sonata, op. 40a for Bass Clarinet and Piano was composed in 1978, while the composer has not written much about the piece, the first movement "Allegro deciso" starts with a powerful beginning from the lower bass clarinet range. This piece challenges bass clarinetists with its dynamic contrast as well as its soaring melody. Since there are few solo works written for bass clarinetists, this piece is a staple for a work written directly for the bass clarinet in mind, rather than a transcription of another work.

Three Pieces for Clarinet Solo

Igor Stravinsky (1882-1971)

Igor Stravinsky was one of the most influential composers and conductors of the 20th century, known for his innovation, rhythmic complexity and constantly evolving style. Stravinsky was born June 5, 1882 in Oranienbaum, Russia. He grew up in a musical environment and began piano lessons at a very young age. Stravinsky studied law and philosophy, and graduated from St. Petersburg University in 1905. He then switched his focus to composition. He showed some of his pieces to Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov, who was impressed and took him on as a private student. Many of Stravinsky's works are based on Russian folk idioms and known for being very unorthodox. Among his most notable works are *The Firebird*, *Petrushka*, and *The Rite of Spring*, which notoriously provoked a riot after the premiere. Stravinsky passed away on April 6, 1971 in New York, New York.

Composed in 1919, Stravinsky's *Three Pieces for Clarinet Solo* is a masterwork in the solo clarinet repertoire. The piece was written as a gift for patron and amateur clarinetist Werner Reinhart. After the jarring premiere of *The Rite of Spring* in 1913, Stravinsky began to explore neoclassical elements and a more restrained style. *Three Pieces* was written in the midst of this shift, combining elements of Russian folk melody, a more modern, jazzy style. The piece highlights the versatility of the clarinet, from lyrical expression to rhythmic complexity and virtuosic brilliance.

Each movement presents a distinct musical personality:

- I. The first piece is lyrical yet unsettled. Written for clarinet in A, it features flowing lines interrupted by irregular phrasing and unexpected pauses. This movement requires flexibility in timing and a strong sense of phrasing.
- II. The second piece is brief, playful, and rhythmically driven. It reflects Stravinsky's interest in jazz-influenced rhythms, with syncopation and a sense of spontaneity. It is light, witty, and mischievous, requiring technical precision and rhythmic clarity.
- III. The third piece, written for clarinet in B-flat, is the most dramatic and technically demanding. It is marked by sharp contrasts, wide leaps, and bold dynamic shifts. The character is energetic, edgy, and at times even aggressive, showcasing the clarinet's full range and expressive extremes.

Clarinet Sonata

Francis Poulenc (1899-1963)

French composer and pianist, Francis Poulenc, was born in 1899, in Paris. Poulenc is known for his solo piano works, chamber music, choral pieces, operas, ballets, orchestral concert work, as well as his solo repertoire. Poulenc grew up in a musical household, with his mother being a pianist. Poulenc was largely self-taught as a composer and did not attend a traditional music conservatory. Poulenc died on January 30, 1963.

Poulenc's three-movement *Sonate pour clarinette et piano* was commissioned by clarinetist Benny Goodman and is dedicated to the memory of Swiss composer Arthur Honegger. Unfortunately, a few months prior to the world premiere of the sonata, Poulenc died of a heart attack in Paris. The premiere took place on April 10, 1963, at Carnegie Hall, performed by Benny Goodman and Leonard Bernstein. The sonata was an immediate hit with clarinetists around the nation and found its permanent home in the standard clarinet repertoire. *Sonate pour clarinette et piano* was one of three Poulenc wrote for solo woodwind and piano. The others are one for flute in 1956, and one for oboe in 1962. Poulenc aimed to create a bassoon sonata next; however, due to his untimely death, he never got around to composing the piece.

The first movement of the Clarinet Sonata labeled "Allegro Tristamente," is always in motion, but proceeds with a sense of tension. After a powerful and brief fortissimo introduction in the clarinet, punctuated by piano chords, we quickly quiet to a murmur. The clarinet line builds with intention building back to the energy seen during the introduction. The energy quickly dies and we arrive at a calm, distant section, slowly building tension until we arrive back to the motion similar to the beginning, before the piece ends with a tremolo motion.

The second movement titled "Romanza," or romance, contrasts the lively outer movements with a deeply expressive and lyrical character. The movement is lamenting with tender, melancholic moments that grow in intensity and anguish. Although not technically difficult, this movement requires a great amount of maturity and control to play. Much of this movement can be recognized from Poulenc's *Gloria* for soprano solo, large orchestra, and chorus.

After You, Mr. Gershwin

Béla Kovács (1937-2021)

Renowned clarinetist, composer, and music educator Béla Kovács was born May 1, 1937 in Tatabánya, Hungary. He began his musical studies in 1946 at the local music school, which was founded by his father. He initially studied piano before switching to clarinet in 1949, studying with Imre Dobos. Kovács pursued advanced clarinet studies at the Franz Liszt Academy of Music from 1951 to 1957 with György Balassa. His

exceptional technicality and musicality was celebrated with early competition successes, including prizes at international events in Warsaw and Moscow. He wrote numerous clarinet textbooks, along with more than 60 works for solo clarinet, clarinet and piano, clarinet chamber ensembles, and saxophone quartet. He is best known for his virtuosic *Hommages* series, a group of clarinet pieces each paying tribute to a different composer, such as J.S. Bach, Claude Debussy, and Manuel de Falla. There are many recordings of Kovács playing his own compositions. Béla Kovács passed away on November 7, 2021 at the age of 84.

After You, Mr. Gershwin is Kovács' homage to George Gershwin, blending classical virtuosity with jazz idioms. This fun, energetic piece is technically demanding for the player, who must have nimble technique and be well-versed with numerous extended techniques, such as glissandi, fluttertongue, and slaptongue. You may recognize many "Gershwin-isms" from popular works, such as *American in Paris* and *Rhapsody in Blue*.

Contradanza

Paquito D'Rivera (b.1948)

Arr. Walter López

Francisco de Jesús Rivera Figueras, known as Paquito D'Rivera, is a Cuban American alto saxophonist, clarinetist, and composer. D'Rivera's albums have received great reviews from critics and have hit the top of jazz charts. His albums demonstrate his extraordinary skills in bebop, classical, and Latin/Caribbean music. D'Rivera is the only artist ever to win Grammy Awards in both Classical and Latin Jazz categories. D'Rivera currently resides in North Bergen, New Jersey.

Contradanza is from D'Rivera's *Three Pieces for Clarinet and Piano*, which can either be performed all together, or individually. *Contradanza* originally comes from an eighteenth-century English country dance that eventually made its way to France and to America. By the nineteenth century, this form of dance became very important in Cuba. This style paved the way for genres such as Danzon, Mambo, and Cha-Cha. This specific movement is dedicated to Cuban composer and pianist Ernesto Lecuona.

This specific arrangement is for Bass Clarinet and Bb Clarinet by Walter López. Walter López is a talented clarinetist and saxophonist. López took the *Contradanza* and arranged into a duo that is very fitting for this instrumentation. This piece will be one you will hum the whole car ride home.