



SCHOOL OF MUSIC

Presents

Lauren Hanifan, oboe
Emma Piyakhun, oboe
Dr. Cecilia Kao, piano

April 14, 2023

8:30 pm

PepsiCo Recital Hall

Program

Sonata in E-Flat Major, BWV 1031

Allegro Moderato

Siciliano

Allegro

Johann Sebastian Bach

(1685-1750)

Sonatina for Oboe and Piano, Op. 28

Leggiero

Andante con Moto

Vivace

Malcolm Arnold

(1921-2006)

Intermission

Concerto for Oboe

Rondo Pastorale

Ralph Vaughan Williams

(1872-1958)

Sonata for Oboe and Piano Op.166

Andantino

Ad Libitum-Molto Allegro-Ad Libitum

Molto Allegro

Camille Saint-Saëns

(1835-1931)

Two Pieces for Two Oboes and Cor Anglais

Adagio Doloroso

Allegro Giocoso

Gordon Jacob

(1895-1984)

Logan Boyd, oboe

Lauren Hanifan and Emma Piyakhun are students of Elise Belk.

The use of recording equipment or taking photographs is prohibited.
Please silence all electronic devices including watches, pagers, and phones.

Program Notes

Sonata in E-Flat Major

Johann Sebastian Bach

Johann Sebastian Bach is one of the most famed German composers of the Baroque period. This sonata was originally written for flute, and consists of three distinct movements. The first movement features a light melody that is utilized in standard sonata form, with a clear exposition, development, and recapitulation. The piano has fast moving passages while the oboe floats above it with lilting melodies. The second movement is in the contrasting key of G minor, and has slower repeated motives throughout the movement. The third movement returns to E-flat major, and is in a faster tempo than the first and second movements. The piano and oboe trade melodic fragments for the entire movement.

Sonatina for Oboe and Piano Op.28 (1951)

Malcolm Arnold

Malcolm Arnold (1921-2006) was a British composer and conductor who is widely regarded as one of the most important British composers of the 20th century. Born in Northampton, England, Arnold initially pursued a career as a professional trumpet player before turning to composition. He gained recognition for his compositions in the 1940s and 1950s, and went on to write over 100 works in a variety of genres, including symphonies, concertos, ballets, and film scores. Arnold was awarded numerous honors and awards throughout his career, including the CBE in 1970 and a knighthood in 1993.

One of Arnold's most famous works is his Sonatina for Oboe, which he composed in 1951. The piece was commissioned by the oboist Léon Goossens, one of the most influential oboists of the 20th century. The Sonatina consists of three movements: a lively first movement, a slower and more introspective second movement, and a lively and virtuosic third movement. The work is characterized by its intricate melodies, complex harmonies, and rhythmic vitality. The Sonatina for Oboe has become a staple of the oboe repertoire and is performed regularly by oboists around the world.

Concerto for Oboe (1944)

Ralph Vaughan Williams

This piece is dedicated to Léon Goossens, an English oboist who played with the London Philharmonic Orchestra. Known for his symphonies and solo concertos, Ralph Vaughan Williams helped create the sound that we now recognize as classically English.

This movement starts with a flowing melody that will be repeated throughout the piece. Another classically Vaughan Williams feature of this movement is the short cadenza passages that play with the time of the music. The contrasting styles of this concerto create interesting sections for the listener, including a bouncy dance melody, more frantic fast passages, and serene renditions of the original melody. The movement grows to the end of the piece, where it repeats the primary melody once more in a heroic cadenza.

Sonata for Oboe and Piano Op. 166 (1921)

Camille Saint-Saëns

Camille Saint-Saëns was a pioneer of French music, known for his keyboard works, as well as his individual sonatas. This sonata takes the listener on a journey through its three movements in contrasting styles.

The first movement, Andantino, has a light lilting melody that is held up by piano lines echoing the melodic fragments. The second movement starts with an open cadenza that floats over sustained piano chords. There is then a contrasting section in the middle with more energy and motion, before returning to a cadenza to end the movement. This leads us into the third movement of the piece, which is an intense voyage through multiple keys and fast scalar passages.

Two Pieces for Two Oboes and Cor Anglais (1954)

Gordon Jacob

Gordon Jacob was a professor of composition at the Royal College of Music in London during the creation of this trio.

The first piece, Adagio Doloroso, is a lyrical movement featuring characteristic harmonies that sound similar to some found in Malcolm Arnold as well, as Malcolm Arnold actually studied underneath Gordon Jacob at the Royal College of Music. Listen for the trading of the melody between all three players in this movement. At one point, the first oboe and cor anglais create an almost bagpipe sounding background for the second oboe melody to lay on top of.

The second piece, Allegro Giocoso, is an upbeat tune that utilizes an ABA form. The first section of the piece introduces the fast melody and features quickly alternating melody lines within the trio. The second section, the trio, takes us almost back to the first movement but in a more major mode this time. This section requires communication between all three players to create a unique feel and tempo change.