



SCHOOL OF MUSIC

Guest Artist Recital

Bente Illevold, euphonium
Gail Robertson, euphonium
Kazuo Murakami, piano

November 18, 2024

7:00pm

PepsiCo Recital Hall

Sonata for Euphonium and Piano

I.

Bente Illevold, euphonium
Kazuo Murakami, piano

Stig NORDHAGEN (b. 1966)

Scaramouche

Gail Robertson, euphonium
Kazuo Murakami, piano

Philip SPARKE (b. 1951)

Three Lieder from Opus 13

- I. Ich Stand in Dunklen Träumen
- II. Sie Liebten Sich Beide
- III. Liebeszauber

Bente Illevold, euphonium
Kazuo Murakami, piano

Clara SCHUMANN (1819-1896)
arr. Bente Illevold

Fantasie - Stücke

- I. Zart und mit Ausdruck
- II. Lebhaft, leicht

Gail Robertson, euphonium
Kazuo Murakami, piano

Robert SCHUMANN (1818-1856)

INTERMISSION

Histoire Du Tango

- II. Café 1930

Gail Robertson, euphonium
Kazuo Murakami, piano

Astor PIAZZOLLA (1921-1992)

Råtass “World Premier”

Bente Illevold, euphonium

Gail ROBERTSON (b. 1965)

Three More Furies

- VII. Exuberant
- VIII. Expressive, lyrical ebb and flow

Gail Robertson, euphonium

James GRANT (b. 1954)

Euphonium Concerto
III. Giocoso

Vladimir COSMA (b. 1940)

Bente Illevold, euphonium
Kazuo Murakami, piano

West Coast Groove

Gail ROBERTSON (b. 1965)

Bente Illevold and Gail Robertson, euphoniums

BIOS:

Bente Illevold is from Rendalen in Østerdalen and plays the euphonium. Over the past ten years, she has distinguished herself as an innovative performer and garnered recognition for her performances of new music for the instrument, both nationally and internationally. Illevold is behind 20 original performances for the euphonium, and there are more to come!

Bente is an international S.E. Shires Company Euphonium Artist and was the company's first choice as their first female and European euphonium artist. Her debut album "Klangen fra de dype skoger" was released in 2020, earning her a nomination for "Instrumentalist des Jahres" in OPUS KLASSIK, Germany's largest classical music magazine. Her second album "Alone" was released in autumn 2021 and was nominated for Album of the Year by 4BarsRest.

In 2021, Illevold was awarded the prestigious Forsberg and Aulies grant. In 2023, she was awarded Drammen municipality's artist grant, and the title Municipal Artist of the Year. \

Dr. Gail Robertson has a distinguished reputation as a euphonium artist and teacher, soloist, and clinician. She has also garnered worldwide attention for leadership, her work as composer/arranger, and as a musical talent. Robertson serves as Associate Professor of Tuba and Euphonium at the University of Central Arkansas, is Visiting Professor of Music (Euphonium) at Indiana University, is Euphonium Artist in Residence at Boston University, and is on the Euphonium Faculty of the American Band College in Ashland, Oregon. Robertson earned her B.A. degree from the University of Central Florida and a M.M. from Indiana University and D.M.A. from Michigan State University where she was a University Distinguished Fellow. She performed for ten years with the world-famous Tubafours at Walt Disney World, Orlando, where she was musical supervisor/chief arranger and produced a highly acclaimed CD, *Tubas Under the Boardwalk*.

Robertson is Past President of the International Tuba and Euphonium Association (ITEA) and the International Women's Brass Conference (IWBC). Dr. Robertson and Dr. Stacy Baker tour and perform as SymbiosisDuo. They have recorded three CDs: *SymbiosisDuo*, *Playground*, and *Dreams, Dances, and Destinations (2024)*. Dr. Robertson is a recipient of Tau Beta Sigma's highest honor, the Outstanding Service to Music Award. She was awarded the ITEA's Clifford Bevan Award for Excellence in Research for her research manuscript, "Restoring the Euphonium's Legacy as Cello of the Wind Band." Dr. Robertson has published articles, reviews, and compositions in *British Brass Band World*, *Bandworld*, and the International Tuba Euphonium Association's, *ITEA Journal*. She recently collaborated with Alfred Music for their *Sound Artistry Intermediate Euphonium Method for Euphonium*.

Dr. Robertson been a longtime member of the Brass Band of Battle Creek, Keith Brion's New Sousa Band, Athena Brass Band, and Monarch Brass. Dr. Robertson most recently performed with the Boston Symphony Orchestra for their historical performances of Shostakovich's "Lady MacBeth." Each summer, Robertson serves on the faculty of the Rafael Mendez Brass Institute (Summit Brass) and as the Euphonium Coach at the Brass Chamber Workshop in Arcata, California.

Dr. Robertson's published works and arrangements are performed world-wide and are available through Cimarron Music Press and Wright & Round Music Publishers. As a Willson Euphonium Artist, Robertson's euphonium of choice is a Willson 2950TA with a bronze Warburton/Gail Robertson mouthpiece

Dr. Kazuo Murakami is Lecturer of Piano and Coordinator of Collaborative Piano at the University of Central Arkansas. Murakami is a sought-after soloist and collaborative artist in the U.S., Europe, and Asia. Originally from Japan, Murakami

began his studies in piano at the age of four. After studying at the Kyoto City University of Arts, Murakami continued his studies at the Cleveland Institute of Music, where he won the Sadie Zellen Piano Prize. Murakami earned a D.M.A. in Piano Performance and Pedagogy from the University of Iowa.

Murakami specializes in 20th century and contemporary music. His diverse repertoire includes works by Alban Berg, Arnold Schoenberg, Olivier Messiaen, Henri Dutilleux, Ichiyanagi Toshi, Franco Donatoni, and Rodion Shchedrin. Murakami is in high demand as a collaborative artist. He has recorded several albums of contemporary and chamber music, including collaborative projects with distinguished musicians.

Dr. Murakami has been part of numerous chamber recitals and ensembles, performing at universities and venues across the United States and Asia. Additionally, he serves as collaborative pianist at the University of Central Arkansas for 60+ faculty, guest artist and student recitals annually. He was honored recently to present recitals with esteemed artists such as Gene Pokorny, Principal Tuba, the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, Christian Lindberg, distinguished trombone player, and many others. Many of his students continue to study at the university level and have gone on to celebrate successful careers in music. When not at the piano, Murakami enjoys reading, traveling, photography, and hiking.