



SCHOOL OF MUSIC

Presents

**Cole Follett, Trumpet
Sara Steele, Piano**

April 6th, 2025

5:30 P.M.

PepsiCo Recital Hall

Program

Riverrun

Kevin McKee
(b. 1980)

Four Variations on a Theme of D. Scarlatti

Marcel Bitsch
(1921-2011)

Intermission

Con amores, la mi madre

Fernando Obradors
(1897-1945)

Someone to Watch Over Me

George Gershwin
(1898-1937)
arr. Joseph Turrin

The Swan

Camille Saint-Saëns
(1835-1921)
arr. Mikhail Nakariakov

Tocata and Fugue

J. S. Bach
(1685-1750)
arr. Edward H. Tarr

Blake Crosslin, trumpet
Manny Arellano, trumpet
Dhruv Patel, trumpet
Ethan Vinson, trumpet

Program Notes

Riverrun

Kevin McKee

Riverrun is an opener style piece was inspired by imagery of a fun romp down a raging river - boating through rapids, running and leaping across rocks, just going full throttle and having a blast! Kevin McKee is an American composer with a primary emphasis in brass chamber music. He began playing the trumpet in grade school at the urging of his father, who was the high school music teacher in town. He went on to earn two degrees in trumpet performance; a BM from Sacramento State, where he studied with Gary Dilworth, and a MM from the University of Maryland, under Chris Gekker. He is also an alumni of the Aspen Music Festival and the National Orchestral Institute.

Four Variations on a Theme of D. Scarlatti

Marcel Bitsch

Born in Toulouse, Marcel Bitsch went on to study at the Paris Conservatoire before becoming a professor of counterpoint at the institution. As an exceptionally versatile composer, Bitsch has composed orchestral works, chamber works and numerous pieces and studies for wind instruments. *Four Variations on a Theme by Domenico Scarlatti* is a significant addition to the Trumpet and Cornet repertoire. Suited to advanced level trumpeters and cornetists, Bitsch's *Four Variations on a Theme by Domenico Scarlatti* includes a variety of technical aspects as well as sublime musicality. In his latter years, Bitsch dedicated himself to the analysis of music by the Baroque masters. It is clear that his inspiration for *Four Variations on a Theme by Domenico Scarlatti* comes from his passion for and interest in the era. The variety of this exciting Bitsch piece is outstanding, creating a necessary, inspiring addition to the Trumpet and Cornet repertoire.

Con amores, la mi madre

Fernando Obradors

Spanish composer, Fernando Obradors was a conductor and pianist whose love of music was instilled in him by his mother. Although he was a largely self-taught composer, he eventually ended up in Paris to continue his music study. He wrote in a variety of genres but vocal music is among his most well-known. *Con amores, la mi madre* resembles a lullaby but, in this case, is sung by the young woman to her mother. The lyrics come from a 15th century poem by Juan Anchieta, a Basque composer of the Renaissance. The young woman's quasi lullaby is an attempt to calm her own psyche to find peace after a past relationship. The rocking accompaniment conjures the motion of the rocking chair she uses to soothe herself.

Someone to Watch Over Me

George Gershwin

George Gershwin was an American composer and pianist whose best compositions spanned popular, jazz, and classical genres. *Someone to Watch Over Me* is a song composed by George Gershwin with lyrics by Ira Gershwin from the musical *Oh, Kay!* (1926), where it was introduced by Gertrude Lawrence. Gershwin originally approached the song as an up-tempo jazz tune, but his brother Ira suggested that it might work much better as a ballad, and George ultimately agreed. It has been performed by numerous artists since its debut and is a jazz standard as well as a key work in the Great American Songbook. It is also referenced in the play *Someone Who'll Watch Over Me*.

The Swan

Camille Saint-Saëns

Camille Saint-Saëns was a French composer, organist, conductor and pianist of the Romantic era. His most famous work, *The Carnival of the Animals*, is a humorous musical suite of fourteen movements. Perhaps the most famous of the fourteen and certainly the most graceful, *The Swan* is one of the most famous cello works of all time. The piano evokes the rippling flow of a body of water, over which glides the soaring swan.

Tocatta and Fugue

J. S. Bach

Johann Sebastian Bach was a German composer and organist who is considered one of the greatest composers of all time. His sacred and secular works for orchestra, choir, and solo instruments brought the Baroque genre to its maturity. His works for organ are especially revered. The *Tocatta and Fugue* is one of the greatest of the masterpieces that Bach wrote for organ. Bach's most popular organ work was supposedly composed shortly after his arrival at Weimar in 1708, when he already had earned a reputation as an organist. It belongs to Bach's early composition exercises as he was still assimilating his predecessor's styles. This *Tocatta and Fugue* not only illustrates Bach's exceptional composition technique, but also the extensive possibilities of the organ.

This recital is given in partial fulfillment of the requirements for a Bachelor of Music Education.

Cole Follett is a student of Dr. Jon Burgess.

The use of recording equipment or taking photographs is prohibited.

Please silence all electronic devices including watches, pagers, and phones.