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Junior Recital: Ryan Manion, alto saxophone, Rosanna Nunan, bassoon

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Junior Recital

Ryan Manion, alto saxophone
Rosanna Nunan, bassoon

assisted by
Joanne Kong, piano

February 25, 2007, 3:00 pm
Perkinson Recital Hall
PROGRAM

Violoncello Suite 1: BWV 1007
   Prelude
   J.S. Bach (1685-1750)
   arr. Ramon Ricker

Sonata in C Major for Bassoon and Piano
   Largo
   Allegro
   Andante
   Allegro assai
   Johann Friedrich Fasch (1688-1758)

Concerto for Alto Saxophone, Op. 109
   Alexander Glazunov (1865-1936)

INTERMISSION

Concert Piece for Bassoon and Piano, Op. 35
   Gabriel Pierné (1863-1937)

Pictures at an Exhibition
   No. 2. The Old Castle
   Modest Mussorgsky (1839-1881)

Concert Piece for Bassoon and Strings
   Burrill Phillips (1907-1988)

Fantasy Piece, Op. 73, No. 3
   Robert Schumann (1810-1856)
**J.S. Bach**

Johann Sebastian Bach was a composer from Germany who wrote many works that are famous today. Among those pieces written were a series of six unaccompanied violoncello suites. The Prelude to the first of these suites is probably the most famous movement today. It contains a series of arpeggiated chords and scalar runs throughout the piece. While originally written for the cello, Ramon Ricker took this particular suite as well as the other five and arranged them for the saxophone.

**Johann Friedrich Fasch**

Johann Friedrich Fasch, a contemporary of Bach’s, settled into his position as kapellmeister in Zerbst, Germany from 1722 until his death after having worked as both a violinist and organist in several other German cities. The surviving collection of Fasch’s compositions is extensive and varied, including cantatas, masses, symphonies and a wide array of solo instrumental music. Fasch’s Sonata in C is a standard piece of bassoon repertoire and demonstrates the steady motion and rich ornamentation typical of the Baroque period.

**Alexander Glazunov**

This piece by Alexander Glazunov is one of the few in the earlier part of the 20th century written for the alto saxophone. It was originally written for saxophone and orchestra but can also be performed with a reduced score for the piano. Glazunov, a Russian, was a student of Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov, who also taught Igor Stravinsky. Although alive during the 1900s, he was not a proponent of the avant garde movement. Instead, he chose to remain a more conservative composer, claiming that composers like Brahms, rather than Stravinsky, influenced him more. He wrote this piece for alto saxophone in 1934.
Gabriel Pierné

Gabriel Pierné was a French composer who attended the Conservatoire in Paris, where, studying under Jules Massenet and Cesar Franck, he won awards for theory, composition, and organ performance. Pierné became an important conductor in the early twentieth-century, premiering works by many well-known composers such as Debussy, Ravel, and Stravinsky. In addition to conducting, he managed to turn out a great deal of original works, and his most notable compositions included oratorios, chamber music, ballets, operas, and piano music. This solo, written in 1898, is a unique piece for Pierné, a composer who was not known for his bassoon music.

Modest Mussorgsky

Modest Mussorgsky originally wrote this piece as part of a series of works in which he portrays 10 different paintings. Originally, Mussorgsky wrote these pieces for solo piano and Maurice Ravel later arranged them for orchestra in 1922. The Old Castle is the only piece in this arrangement in which a saxophonist is the soloist and since then has become one of the principal solos for the alto saxophone.

Burrill Phillips

Burrill Phillips was a prestigious twentieth-century American composer and pianist. Educated at the Denver College of Music and the Eastman School, Phillips went on to compose several ballets, an opera, and various vocal and instrumental pieces. He was also a professor of music at Eastman, Juilliard, and Cornell. He wrote this piece for bassoon in 1940.

Robert Schumann

Robert Schumann was a German composer who wrote in the Romantic Style. This piece seems to have two different personalities to it, which is the case with many of Schumann's works. One reason that this often occurs is that Schumann was what we would call bipolar today and this influenced his music writing. This work was originally written for piano and clarinet in 1849.