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Music for Clarinets

Department of Music, University of Richmond

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UNIVERSITY OF RICHMOND
DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC



Music for Clarinets

David Niethamer, *Bb clarinet*
Marta Schworm Weldon, *Eb clarinet, Bb clarinet*
Nicholas Lewis, *Bb clarinet, bass clarinet*
John Walter, *piano*



SEPTEMBER 14, 1998, 8:00 PM
CAMP CONCERT HALL
BOOKER HALL OF MUSIC
GEORGE M. MODLIN CENTER FOR THE ARTS



David Niethamer

DAVID NIETHAMER was appointed Principal Clarinetist of the Richmond Symphony in 1979. He has appeared twelve times as soloist, most recently for the world premiere of Allan Blank's Concerto, commissioned for Niethamer with funding from the Virginia Commission for the Arts and the National Endowment for the Arts. Niethamer also won critical acclaim and national recognition for the American premiere performances of Andre Casanova's Ballade for Clarinet and String Orchestra during his first season with the orchestra. In addition to his orchestral career, Niethamer has maintained a busy schedule of chamber music, recitals and teaching. He has performed at the Albarnele Festival with the Monticello Trio and the Brentano Quartet, with the Kandinsky Trio, the Composers Quartet, and the Lenox String Quartet. From 1982 until 1992, Niethamer was the Clarinetist and Artistic Director of the Roxbury Chamber Players. He was Artistic Director of the Richmond Chamber Players' "Interlude" series from 1994 through 1997.

Niethamer performed at the 1990 ClarinetFest International in Quebec, at the 1988 joint conference of the International Clarinet Society and ClariNetwork International, and at ClarFest '86 in Towson, Maryland. He has played recitals throughout Virginia with Richmond Symphony Music Director George Manahan. An interest in the work of living composers has led to collaborations with Karel Husa, Gunther Schuller, and Ned Rorem. In Virginia, Niethamer has worked closely with Allan Blank, Judith Shatin, and Joel Suben. Niethamer's recordings are on the Opus One, MMC, and Elan labels. Niethamer's teaching career has included two years as Visiting Lecturer of Clarinet and Chamber Music at Ithaca College. Niethamer has conducted Master Classes and workshops at Oberlin College, Tennessee Tech, University of Richmond, and the University of Alabama/Huntsville. He currently teaches at the University of Richmond.

Niethamer is married to the flutist Patricia Werrell. They have a daughter Terren.



Marta Schworn Weldon

MARTA SCHWORN WELDON, Second and E-Flat Clarinetist of the Richmond Symphony, received degrees from the Oberlin Conservatory of Music, The University of Michigan, and was an advanced guest student at the Sweelinck Conservatorium of Music in Amsterdam, The Netherlands. She has taught at the Interlochen Arts Camp, Virginia Commonwealth University, and the Governor's School for the Visual and Performing Arts. She joined the faculty of U of R in Fall 1997. She has appeared as soloist with the Richmond Symphony and the CREA Orchestra of Amsterdam, and performed in the Bedford Springs, Blossom, and Tanglewood summer festivals. As a cultural representative of Richmond and the Commonwealth of Virginia Ms. Weldon traveled to East Africa and Japan with the Richmond Woodwind Quintet performing for US and foreign dignitaries, school groups, and in public recitals.



Nicholas Lewis

NICHOLAS LEWIS is an extremely versatile and eclectic musician, skilled on the clarinet, saxophone, and piano, and able to perform in a variety of musical styles. His early musical training was provided by his grandmother and mother, both accomplished musicians. He subsequently had his first professional experience as part of a musical ensemble series at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. at the age of sixteen. In 1990, he left to study at Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh, PA. He completed his Master's degree there in 1996. Over the course of his undergraduate studies, he received a first place award in the Aaron Silberman Memorial Chamber Music Competition, and the W.E.B. DuBois Award for Academic Excellence. Upon completion of his Bachelor's degree, Lewis was given University Honors and was made a Carnegie Tradition and Achievement Scholar. During his graduate studies, also at Carnegie Mellon, he was named to the faculty of the Winchester Thurston School, and worked as Multi-Cultural Arts Initiative Producer at WQED-FM 89.3, where he produced national radio programs for Public Radio International. Lewis is currently the Bass Clarinetist with the Richmond Symphony, and has performed with the Akron and Westmoreland Symphonies, as well as the Pittsburgh New Music Festival Orchestra.

Lewis is the son of loving parents W. Alton and Veronica Lewis, and owes all past, present, and future success to the grace of God.

JOHN WALTER, pianist, has been hailed for his dynamic interpretations and sensitive collaborations with orchestras, chamber ensembles and vocalists. Since his arrival in Richmond from New York in 1991, Mr. Walter has earned the admiration and affection of Richmond's concert-going audiences. A regular guest artist with the Richmond Symphony, Richmond Ballet, and the University of Richmond's Currents series, John Walter is at home with repertoire that spans the chronological and stylistic gamut from the Baroque age to the 20th century. Walter currently serves as Artistic Director for the Richmond Chamber Players, who perform a concert series each summer at The Virginia Museum of Fine Arts. In recital, Mr. Walter has been heard at Weill, Alice Tully, Merkin and Town Halls in New York City as well as at colleges and universities across the United States. He has served as accompanist at the Juilliard School, Mannes and Manhattan Colleges and the Aspen and Waterloo Summer Music Festivals. A graduate of Yale University, Mr. Walter received Master's degrees in Piano and Accompanying from the University of Michigan.

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Habanera from Aires Tropicales

Paquito D'Rivera
(b. 1948)

El Niño

Antonio Lauro
(1909-1986)
(arr. Paquito D'Rivera)

David Niethamer, Marta Weldon, Nicholas Lewis

Five Duets for Clarinets

Ingolf Dahl
(1912-1970)

Sonatina (for Donal Michalsky)
Invention on Two Intervals (for Christie Lundquist)
Cadenza Pastorale (for Nicolas Roussakis)
Invention on a Rhythm (for Robert Wojciak)
Canonic Rondo (for Mitchell Lurie)

David Niethamer, Marta Weldon

Duo Sonata

Adagio
♩ = 60
Allegro

Gunther Schuller
(b. 1925)

David Niethamer, Nicholas Lewis

• • • INTERMISSION • • •

Little Suite of Four Dances

William Bolcom
(b. 1938)

I. Rag
II. Apache - Jungle
III. Quasi-Waltz
IV. Soft Shoe

Marta Weldon, John Walter

Three Pieces for Clarinet Trio

Allan Blank
(b. 1925)

♩ = c. 88
Interlude: Lento
Finale: Spirited

David Niethamer, Marta Weldon, Nicholas Lewis