

Program

Introduction, Theme, and Variations	Gioachino Rossini (1792-1868)
Sonata in E flat, Op. 120, No. 2	Johannes Brahms (1833-1897)
Allegro amabile Allegro appassionato Andante con moto- Allegro	
Appalachian Songs	Christian L. Thomas (1996)

Due to unforeseen circumstances, Madalyn Hale will be taking Mary Milam's place in Appalachian Songs



This recital is presented in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Bachelor of Fine Arts in Music Performance degree. Cody Elliott is a clarinet student of Dr. Ann Marie Bingham. For more information about this or other music events, please call (304) 696-3117.

Program Notes

Introduction, Theme and Variations

Gioachino Rossini (1792-1868) was an Italian composer who is primarily known for his operas. He also wrote many songs, chamber music, piano pieces, and sacred music. He composed the *Introduction, Theme and Variations for Clarinet and Orchestra* (1819) at the young age of 18.

Introduction, Theme and Variations starts with a loud entrance from the piano to get the audience's attention. Rossini also used this technique in the overtures of his operas. After the piano's powerful entrance, the soloist plays a bubbly and cheerful theme that is operatic in style. Throughout the piece, the soloist plays many variations of the original theme. Some variations will be faster than the original, and others will just sound faster due to rhythmic alterations. The fourth variation is a slower, emotional version of the theme. In the last variation, the listener will hear the clarinet ascend into its highest register at a great speed. After this cadenza, the piano takes over until the end of this fast, fun, and energetic piece.

Sonata in Eb, Op. 120, No. 2 for Clarinet and Piano

Johannes Brahms (1833-1897) was a German pianist and composer of the Romantic Era. He was born in Hamburg, Germany and died in Vienna, Austria. Brahms retired in the early 1890s and decided to either complete or burn his unfinished works. After hearing clarinetist Richard Mühlfeld perform, Brahms decided to come out of retirement just to write two clarinet sonatas, a trio for clarinet, cello, and piano, and a quintet for clarinet and strings. Brahms was so enchanted by Mühlfeld's playing that he just had to write for the clarinet.

The *Sonata in Eb* was written in 1894 and is separated into three movements. Movement one is lyrical and there are many "conversations" between the clarinet and piano. The second movement is a stylized Ländler, an Austrian folkdance, and is more robust and very dramatic in expression and dynamics. The third movement is a theme with variations. Eventually, the listener

will hear the clarinet and piano finally come together and resolve the conflict between the rhythms. Some scholars say that the section after the theme and variations is a fourth movement played segue.

Appalachian Songs

Appalachian Songs begins slowly with the Spring Valley Alma Mater, originally arranged by Colten Brumfield. The next tune is the Quaker Hymn, *Simple Gifts*. After the first statement of *Simple Gifts*, Thomas combines *Simple Gifts* and the Marshall University Alma Mater to symbolize our time here at Marshall. The last statement of the piece is the Marshall University Alma Mater, and it ends with an expressive ritardando to symbolize us going our separate ways.

Christian L. Thomas (1996) is a composer from Waldorf, Maryland. He graduated from Marshall University with a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Music with an emphasis in Composition. He is continuing his education with graduate studies at George Mason University. Thomas has been composing for nine years and has created many works.

Christian Lamont Thomas has become one of my closest friends throughout the five years we have known each other. Even though he is going to school in Maryland, I wanted him to be a part of my senior recital because he was a huge influence in my musical development. Since he is a composer, I decided to ask him to arrange a piece for my clarinet trio.

Mary Milam, Emma Dilley, and I have been together since high school. We graduated high school together, came to Marshall University as Music Education and clarinet students, and are all graduating from Marshall. We call ourselves the Wolfpack because our high school mascot is a Timberwolf.

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The Marshall University
SCHOOL of MUSIC
presents a

Senior Recital

Cody Elliott, Clarinet

in collaboration with

Dr. Johan Botes, Piano

and

Emma Dilley and Mary Milam, Clarinets

**Saturday, October 3, 2020
Smith Recital Hall
7:30 p.m.**

This program is presented by the College of Arts and Media through the School of Music, with the support of student activity funds. For more information about this or other music events, please call (304) 696-3117, or view our website at www.marshall.edu/cam/music.