

*The CSB | SJU Music Department
Presents the Senior Clarinet Recital of*

Claudia Behrendt

Student of Bruce Thornton

March 28, 2021 | 5 p.m.
SBH Theatre, St. John's University

*Accompanied by
Bruce Thornton (accordion) &
Diane Thornton (piano)*



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Program

Concerto No.3 in Bb Major for Clarinet and Piano (1786)

Carl Stamitz
(1745-1801)

- I. Allegro Moderato
- II. Romanze
- III. Rondo

Five Bagatelles, Op. 23 for Clarinet and Piano (1945)

Gerald Finzi
(1901-1956)

- I. Prelude
- II. Romance
- III. Carol
- IV. Forlana
- V. Fughetta

Blue Monk (1954)

Thelonious Monk
(1917-1982)

In A Sentimental Mood (1935)

Duke Ellington
(1899-1974)

Petite Fleur (1952)

Sidney Bechet
(1897-1959)

Carl Stamitz – *Concerto No.3 in Bb Major* for Clarinet and Piano

German composer Carl Stamitz (1745-1801) wrote symphonies, symphonies concertantes, and concerti for a multitude of instruments. Of his twelve concerti, only a few remain and some which remain with only a description. Stamitz was born in Mannheim, Germany where he later succeeded his father as the leader of the Mannheim Orchestra. Mozart heard the use of clarinet from Carl's orchestra and wished to include it into his own works. His most admired works were for clarinet and viola. His *Concerto No.3 in Bb Major* for Clarinet and Piano is one of the most famous early concertos to show off the soloistic possibilities for the clarinet.

Gerald Finzi - *Five Bagatelles*

Gerald Finzi (1901-1956) was a British composer best known for his choral works. He is also known for his two clarinet works, the *Concerto for Clarinet and String Orchestra* (1949) and *Five Bagatelles, Op. 23* for Clarinet and Piano. *Five Bagatelles* was published in July of 1945, but all of the movements except the fifth movement, *Fughetta*, are taken from pieces previously written. His piece effectively brings out the clarinet's range and rich tones while exemplifying his style and influences throughout his life. In addition to his musical interest, Finzi also devoted himself to growing apples with his wife in Wiltshire.

Thelonious Monk - *Blue Monk*

Thelonious Monk (1917-1982) was an American jazz pianist and composer known for his improvisation skills. Monk was second to Duke Ellington as a recorded jazz composer. For a long time, nobody came to see his performances nor performed them due to their difficulty. He was also known for his look of suits, hats and sunglasses. His music was not always appreciated due to his unorthodox approach for the times. *Blue Monk* is simplest and most recorded blues piece. The piece is a typical twelve-bar blues. In this performance, it follows the standard practice of presenting the melody, improvisation by the performer and follows by the melody once more.

Sidney Bechet – *Petite Fleur*

Sidney Bechet (1897-1959) was an American francophone jazz saxophonist, clarinetist and composer. Born in New Orleans, he started learning several different instruments before deciding on clarinet. While traveling, he discovered the soprano saxophone and formed a new tone and style. His sound was different on the saxophone than the clarinet but had a similar vibrato to New Orleans clarinetists. He continued traveling around the country until he eventually moved to Paris in 1950 where he wrote and recorded his international hit *Petite Fleur*.

Duke Ellington – *In A Sentimental Mood*

Edward Ellington (1899-1974), more popularly known as “Duke” Ellington, was an American jazz composer and pianist. Ellington wrote over a thousand compositions and was known for his use of orchestras/ big bands. He was also known for his charisma. Ellington's music moved listeners and gave new experiences to listeners. One of Ellington's most known pieces, *In A Sentimental Mood*, is a ballad that contains a beautiful melody with a chromatic countermelody.

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