



IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY
Department of Music and Theatre

James Garcia Lopez
Clarinet

Michiyo Nakatani
Piano

Thursday, April 9, 2026
7:30 pm
Martha-Ellen Tye Recital Hall

Program

Capriccio **Heinrich Sutermeister**
(1910-1995)

Opening tonight's recital is Sutermeister's *Capriccio* for clarinet in A. Written in 1946, it was commissioned as a competition piece at the Genoa Conservatory. Sutermeister was a 20th-century composer who often wrote for choir, opera, and concertos. This piece offers ample room for interpretation and uses a wide range of articulations, dynamics, and tonal colors to showcase the clarinet's expressive capabilities. Rapid technical passages are contrasted with more lyrical, flowing lines, allowing the performer to demonstrate both virtuosity and musical sensitivity.

Konzertstück Nr.2, Op. 114 **Felix Mendelssohn**
(1809-1847)

- I. **Presto**
- II. **Andante**
- III. **Allegretto grazioso**

Carl Balvanz, basset horn
Michiyo Nakatani, piano

As a composer, Mendelssohn wrote numerous pieces for various ensembles, but his two duets for clarinet and basset horn were unique for their time. The basset horn is an instrument in the clarinet family, but is now outdated and rarely used today. One evening, Heinrich Baermann and his son Carl visited Mendelssohn and suggested an unusual exchange: food for new music. They agreed to provide steamed dumplings and sweet cheese strudel in return for duets for clarinet and basset horn.

Chôros No.2 **Heitor Villa-Lobos**
(1887-1959)

Olivia Weil, flute

Brazilian composer and performer Villa-Lobos was known for integrating both the street music of his home country and contemporary, modernist techniques. At the start of the piece, there are moments where it may sound improvised, but later transitions into a dance-like groove between the clarinet and flute. Though the piece is short, it's full of vibrant passages and mood shifts.

Konzertstück à la Feidman **István Kohán**
(b. 1990)

- I. **Freilach**
- II. **Hora**
- III. **Presto**

Aiden Griffin, clarinet
Michiyo Nakatani, piano

István Kohán is a Hungarian clarinetist and composer influenced by folk traditions and the teachings of Béla Bartók. His *Konzertstück à la Feidman* was inspired by Giora Feidman and his expressive klezmer style. The piece blends classical technique with klezmer style

through ornamentation and tone. If you listen closely, you will hear Mozart's third movement of the Clarinet Concerto in A and Mendelssohn's first duo for clarinet and bassett horn.

~Intermission~

Homage to Paradise Valley **Jeff Scott**
(b. 1967)

- III. Roho, Pumzika kwa Amani
Spirits, Rest Peacefully (A Lullaby)
- IV. Paradise Theater Jump!

Hayley TeKippe, oboe
Nick Celsi, saxophone
Carl Balvanz, bass clarinet
Ben Heiderscheit, bassoon

The reed quintet is a newer ensemble that has gained popularity in chamber works. Similar to the wind quintet, it includes the oboe, clarinet, and bassoon. However, instead of the added flute and horn, you have the saxophone and bass clarinet. This combination of instrumentation creates a unique timbre that cannot be replicated. Jeff Scott's *Homage to Paradise Valley* perfectly encapsulates the ensemble's sound production and delicacy. "Roho, Pumzika kwa Amani" is a slow, dreamy movement that emphasizes the tonal colors of each instrument. The fourth and final movement features an unforgettable, catchy groove that brings the work to an energetic, satisfying conclusion.

Sonata **Francis Poulenc**
(1899-1963)

- I. Allegro Tristamente
- II. Romanza
- III. Allegro con Fuoco

Michiyo Nakatani, piano

Ending tonight's performance is Poulenc's Sonata for clarinet. Initially, Poulenc wanted to compose a sonata for each woodwind instrument. However, he passed just a couple of months after premiering the piece in 1962 with Benny Goodman on clarinet and Leonard Bernstein on piano. He wrote this piece in memory of his late friend Arthur Honegger, who died suddenly.

Thank you to everyone who has made my time at ISU memorable. I am so incredibly grateful for the opportunities I have had to better myself as a musician. I also wanted to thank all my friends who have believed in me. I wouldn't be where I am today if it weren't for you guys. You guys mean the world to me. :]

This recital is given in partial fulfillment for the requirements of a Bachelor of Music Education degree. James Garcia Lopez is a student of Dr. Gregory Oakes.

Upcoming Events

Friday Soirée

Friday, April 10, 5:00 pm
Memorial Union, Maintenance Shop

Camden Stone Senior Voice Recital

Friday, April 10, 7:30 pm
Martha-Ellen Tye Recital Hall

Emma Whynacht Senior Voice Recital

Saturday, April 11, 1:30 pm
Martha-Ellen Tye Recital Hall

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 - and to provide a welcoming community for all.

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