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Faculty Recital: Richard Faria, bass clarinet

Richard Faria

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Faculty Recital:

Richard Faria, bass clarinet
Diane Birr, piano
Paige Morgan, oboe
Nikhil Bartolomeo, clarinet
Courtnie Elscott, clarinet
Vivian Becker, bass clarinet

Hockett Family Recital Hall
Saturday, October 24th, 2015
2:00 pm
Program

Rosenthal Miniatures (2013) 
Christopher Stark 
(b. 1980)

I. Vivacissimo
II. Andante
III. Vivace
IV. Grave
V. Sentimentale
VI. Vigoroso
VII. Senza misura

Paige Morgan, oboe

The Blues Ranger (2014) 
Josh Oxford 
(b. 1985)

Perhaps (2003) 
Tristan Perich 
(b. 1982)

Diane Birr, piano

Intermission

In a Deep Funk (1997) 
Daniel Dorff 
(b. 1956)

I. Hustle Misterioso
II. Twist Variations
III. Bear Hug
IV. Funk Scherzo

Black (2015) 
Marc Mellits 
(b. 1966)

Nikhil Bartolomeo, clarinet
Courtnie Elscott, clarinet
Vivian Becker, bass clarinet
Program Notes

I first met renowned illustrator Marc Rosenthal while we were both in residence at an artist colony in Italy in 2012. Marc and I had many interesting conversations in which he eloquently described how he views the role of an illustrator: as someone who doesn’t just translate a written text or article into another artistic medium, but as an artist who adds layers of depth and individual interpretation. This concept inspired me to try and create musical accompaniments to Marc’s illustrations, and Rosenthal Miniatures is the product of this endeavor. Jennifer Gookin Cavanaugh and Christopher Kirkpatrick commissioned the work with funding from the University of Montana School of Music.

- Chris Stark

When I was in elementary school, I was a big fan of the television show Mighty Morphin' Power Rangers. Part of the show's theme ("Go go power rangers") is embedded a few times in the piece and serves as the basis for a lot of the material. The piece prominently features the blues scale and the octatonic scale, often seamlessly moving from one scale to the other.

- Josh Oxford

In A Deep Funk for Bass Clarinet is the result of several intersecting ideas that have come full-circle. As a bass clarinetist myself, the Bach cello suites are standard repertoire for my practice and warm-ups -- partially because they're excellent training for intonation and interpretation, and partially because they're monumental masterpieces that can be played on bass clarinet straight from the cello music. When I was commissioned in 1995 to create an unaccompanied competition piece for a contrabassoon festival, I responded with this dance suite somewhat in the Bach model, but using dance patterns from my own era rather than baroque dances.

1. Hustle Misterioso uses a hustle rhythm, and the pitches are reminiscent of the "Powerhouse" motif used in many of Carl Stalling's cartoon scores. It also is a traditionally built rounded binary form.

2. Twist Variations uses a theme in driving quarter notes and 12-bar blues, and then goes quite far afield into many rhythmic and textural worlds, using the 12-bar blues as a chaconne.

3. Bear Hug is a 12/8 slow dance, certainly inspired by the feel of Smokey Robinson's and other ballads of that genre.

4. Funk Scherzo is more free form, and true to its title.

- Daniel Dorff