

THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA

**School of Music**

presents

# SEMINAR FOR PIANO TEACHERS

TEACHING ELEMENTARY, INTERMEDIATE,  
AND ADVANCED PIANO

University of Oklahoma

June 18-20, 2009

***Technique, Performance Strategies, Repertoire,  
Practice Strategies, Performance Practice, Teaching Tips***

with Clinicians

***Sheila Paige, Bill Moore, Jane Magrath, Barbara Fast,  
Edward Gates, Karen Beres, and Julie Knerr***

and Recitalists

***Jeongwon Ham and Stephanie Leon Shames***

	<b>Thursday, June 18</b>	<b>Friday, June 19</b>	<b>Saturday, June 20</b>
8:30	8:00-8:40 <i>Workshop Registration</i> (Gothic Hall in Catlett Music Center)	Literature Exploration: <i>French Teaching Literature</i> , Jyoti Hench (CMC 104)	Literature Exploration: <i>Dave Brubeck's Two-Part Adventures</i> , Theresa Camilli (Pitman Recital Hall)
9:00	8:45 – 9:50 <i>Helping performers get out what's already in them: A conversation about mental performance strategies</i> , Bill Moore (Pitman Recital Hall)	<i>Technique for Beginners: The Piano Safari Approach</i> , Julie Knerr (CMC 104)	<i>Expressiveness in Mozart</i> , Edward Gates (Pitman Recital Hall)
10:00	<i>Choosing Literature to Peak Student Interest</i> , Jane Magrath (Pitman Recital Hall)	<i>Efficient Learning When Practicing to Perform</i> , Barbara Fast (CMC 104)	<i>Don't turn your butterflies into dragons: Helping students play their best when it really</i>

			<i>counts</i> , Bill Moore (Pitman Recital Hall)
11:00	<i>Break</i>	<i>Break</i>	<i>Break</i>
11:20	<i>On the Road to Practicing Effectively: The Journey Continues</i> , Karen Beres (CMC 128)	<i>Specific Teaching Strategies for Success</i> , Julie Knerr (Pitman Recital Hall)	<i>Technique Clinic and Master Class</i> , Sheila Paige (11:20 –12:35) (Pitman Recital Hall)
12:20	<i>Lunch on campus corner</i>	<i>Lunch on campus corner</i>	<i>Workshop conclusion</i>
1:30	<i>Presenting Intermediate Classics: A Student's First Encounters</i> , Jane Magrath (CMC 128)	<i>Innovations in Technique</i> , Sheila Paige (Pitman Recital Hall 1:30 – 2:45)	
2:30	<i>How Motion Affects Sound, with a little Anatomy and Posture</i> , Sheila Paige (Pitman Recital Hall 2:30 – 3:45)	<i>Not Your Mother's Album for the Young</i> , Dr. Karen Beres (Pitman Recital Hall 2:45 – 3:45)	
3:45	<i>Break</i> (Piano Pedagogy Resource Center Open, CMC 003)	<i>Break</i> (Piano Pedagogy Resource Center Open, CMC 003)	
4:05	Literature Exploration: <i>Piano Teaching Music of Jenó Takács</i> , Rebekah Jordan-Miller, <i>Grieg's Lyric Pieces</i> , Nicole Biggs (Pitman Recital Hall)	Literature Exploration: <i>Teaching Music of Persichetti, Diemer, Starer, S. Bernstein</i> , Sara Ernst (Pitman Recital Hall)	
	Piano Pedagogy Resource Center Open (CMC 003 5:10 – 5:45)	<i>Interactive Music-Making: Organ Improvisation</i> , John Schwandt (Gothic Hall 4:45 – 5:30)	
5:30	<i>Dinner</i>	<i>Dinner</i>	
8:00	Piano Recital with Jeongwon Ham, Solo works of Bach-Busoni, Chopin, Schubert, and Liszt (Sharp Concert Hall)	Piano Recital with Stephanie Shames, Solo and 4-hand Works of Schumann, Brahms, Schubert (Sharp Concert Hall)	

*While we do not expect them, minor schedule changes may be necessary.*

## **Sheila Paige**

### ***How motion affects sound***

Learn how different hand, arm and finger movements change tone, color and phrasing. Let your body work with your musicianship, not against it.

### ***Innovations in Technique***

Ms Paige has developed many new ideas based on her study of Taubman Technique, Alexander Technique and other methods. This lecture includes her latest innovations, not found in any other setting.

### ***Technique Clinic and Master Class***

Pianists and/or students will bring technical issues -- passage problems, coordination problems, or fatigue, discomfort or pain issues.

**SHEILA PAIGE**, Executive Director and founder of the Piano Wellness Seminar, has over 30 years experience in the work of Dorothy Taubman and an extensive background in Alexander Technique. Her reputation as a teacher and presenter attracts pianists and audiences nationally and internationally. She is a past presenter many state MTNA conventions. Her students include numerous university faculty and performers, including Steinway artists.

## **Bill Moore**

### ***Helping performers get out what's already in them. A conversation about mental performance strategies***

This interactive session will provide participants the opportunity to discuss the mental and emotional aspects of performance while sharing ideas for helping students prepare for performances, enhance self-confidence and develop better concentration during performance.

### ***Don't turn your butterflies into dragons: Helping students play their best when it really counts***

We will discuss strategies for helping your students work through stage fright and performance anxiety issues. This session will provide specific strategies for pre-performance preparation, effectively dealing with distractions, eliminating negative thoughts during performance as well as practice activities for training concentration.

**DR. BILL MOORE** is a performance psychology specialist working with musicians, athletes and business professional helping both individuals and teams perform at optimal levels under competitive stress. He is president of Moore Performance Consulting and is currently a performance coach for a variety of individuals and organizations in the United States and Europe.

## **Jane Magrath**

### ***Choosing Literature to Peak Student Interest***

Some refreshing classics that also motivate students will be presented along with teaching suggestions that can be applied to much of the classical teaching literature. A focus is on teaching to find the meaning in the music for both student and audience.

### ***Presenting Intermediate Classics: A Student's First Encounters***

I remember once hearing Frances Clark request that teachers present literature in the preparatory lesson to students so that the teacher avoids "running a house of correction" in the future. Discussed here will be some quick and concise ways to prepare selected intermediate classical pieces to avoid mistakes in the coming lessons.

**JANE MAGRATH** is well known as an author, clinician, and pianist. Her book *The Pianist's Guide to Standard Teaching and Performance Literature* has become a classic reference work for pianists throughout the country. She currently has more than thirty-five volumes published with Alfred Publishing, and her music editions are used widely throughout the U.S. and abroad. Frequently in demand as a clinician and teacher, during the last twenty years she has performed and given presentations in over forty states including Alaska, and on three continents. Magrath is Regents' Professor and holds the Grant Endowed Chair at the University of Oklahoma where she is Director of Piano Pedagogy.

## **Barbara Fast**

### ***Efficient Learning When Practicing to Perform***

Practicing is the cornerstone of all musicians' lives. Is the time used efficiently, and are the end goals of performance always clearly in the forefront? The presentation features specific suggestions for efficient practicing based on a synthesis of current research in music cognition, music education, music psychology, and sports psychology.

**BARBARA FAST**, Keyboard Area Chair and Associate Professor of Piano Pedagogy, coordinates the group piano program and teaches graduate and undergraduate piano pedagogy at the University of Oklahoma. She co-founded the biennial Group Piano and Piano Pedagogy (GP3) National Forum, meeting in 2010 for the sixth conference. She also has performed in chamber settings in England, Russia, Japan and Korea, as well as presented lecture recitals and master classes throughout the United States.

## **Edward Gates**

### ***Expressiveness in Mozart***

Another look at interpreting a few of our favorite Mozart sonatas.

**EDWARD GATES**, Frieda Derdeyn Bambas Professor of Piano at the University of Oklahoma, teaches undergraduate and graduate piano performance as well as graduate seminars in piano literature. Hailed as "a splendid pianist" by The New York Times, he has performed in solo recitals and chamber concerts in the United States, China, and Britain. He has given workshops and master classes across the United States and in Taiwan and the Peoples Republic of China.

## **Karen Beres**

### ***On the Road to Practicing Effectively: The Journey Continues***

Thanks to publications such as *The Practice Revolution*, piano teachers are more aware than ever of the pitfalls our students encounter in their individual practice. Even with guidance and direction, however, our students still are not always practicing effectively. What would they say to us about their practice habits? How can we continue to aid them on the road to practicing effectively? Find out the answers learned through student surveys and interviews, as well as recent publications, and learn new ways in which to engage your students in successful practice.

### ***Not Your Mother's Album for the Young***

As piano teachers, many of us train our intermediate students on a steady diet of pieces from *Albums for the Young* by Schumann, Gurlitt, Tchaikovsky, and Kabalevsky. But what about the alternatives? Explore the possibilities of teaching sophisticated intermediate technique and musicality through the use of lesser-known "Albums for the Young" by such composers as David Diamond, Lowell Liebermann, and Rodion Schredin.

**KAREN BERES** recently completed her seventh year on the keyboard faculty of the University of North Carolina School of the Arts, where she coordinates the group piano program and teaches piano pedagogy and secondary piano. Recently she was one of six campus-wide recipients of the 2008 Excellence in Teaching award at UNCSA. Dr. Beres, a member of the CanAm Piano Duo, remains active in chamber music performance and workshop presentations across North America. Upcoming projects include a commissioned work for duo piano and percussion, anticipated for the fall of 2009, by David Maslanka.

## **Julie Knerr**

### ***Technique for Beginners: The Piano Safari Approach***

Based on my research with ten well-known pre-college teachers around the country who subscribe to a variety of technical schools, I have developed a series of technical exercises for the first months of a child's piano study that provide the foundational technical motions and coordinations necessary to play first year repertoire. The exercises are based on ideas and beliefs common to all the teachers in my research. Exercises are given animal names to appeal to children. This session includes the use of video and stuffed animals.

### ***Specific Teaching Strategies for Success***

Through my work observing numerous teachers in action, I have developed 120 Teaching Strategies in an attempt to codify and quantify what a good teacher does in a lesson. Specific Teaching Strategies, each assigned a descriptive name, can then be concretely assigned to student teachers to work on in the next week's teaching. A sampling of these Teaching Strategies will be presented. Video will be used in this session.

**JULIE KNERR** is known for her work in piano pedagogy and technique, and especially for investigating how the best teachers in the country teach technique to beginners. Her dissertation on elementary level piano technique was nominated for a PhD Dissertation Prize in 2006. Most recently she has been a faculty member at the University of Missouri where she taught piano pedagogy, applied piano, group piano, and children's classes.

### **Jeongwon Ham**

#### ***Piano Recital***

Dr. Ham's program will include the Bach-Busoni *Chaconne in D Minor*, Chopin *Andante Spianato and Grand Polonaise*, Op. 22, Schubert *Sonata in B-flat Major*, D. 960, and the Liszt *Rigoletto Paraphrase*.

**JEONGWON HAM** has won numerous competitions including the Bartók/Kabalevsky International Piano Competition, Epinal International Piano Competition, Paul Hindemith Piano Competition, Artur Schnabel Piano Competition, and the Simone Belsky Piano Competition. She has performed in Europe, Asia, and the United States and currently is on the piano faculty at the University of Oklahoma.

### **Stephanie Shames**

#### ***Piano Recital***

Professor Shames' program will include Schumann *Symphonic Variations* along with the Schubert *Variations for Four Hands* and Brahms *Hungarian Dances*, both with husband and conductor/pianist Dr. Jonathan Shames.

**STEPHANIE LEON SHAMES** joined the University of Oklahoma School of Music Piano Faculty in 2005 teaching chamber music and collaborating in performances with faculty and students. She has appeared as soloist with numerous orchestras and performed at international festivals and venues throughout the U.S., Canada, Europe, and Asia.

### **John Schwandt**

#### ***Interactive Music-Making: Organ Improvisation***

The audience will request favorite hymn tunes and listen to Dr. Schwandt create masterpieces on the spot!

**JOHN D. SCHWANDT** is Associate Professor of Organ and Director for the American Organ Institute at the University of Oklahoma. He is a nationally acclaimed performer and is in demand as a clinician, recitalist, leader of hymn festivals, silent film accompanist, adjudicator, and as an organ consultant. Select performances have also been featured on American Public Media's *Pipedreams* broadcasts. Equally at home on a classical or theatrical pipe organ, he is known for his award-winning improvisational skills, his musical versatility, and his ability to excite and engage audiences of every kind.

**Nicole Biggs, Theresa Camilli, Sara Ernst, Jyoti Hench, and Rebekah Jordan-Miller** are currently students in either the DMA or PhD Piano Pedagogy Programs at the University of Oklahoma.

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### ***Additional Activities***

Workshop participants will have the opportunity to browse in the Ruby Grant Piano Pedagogy Resource Center and other facilities in the School of Music and Weitzenhoffer College of Fine Arts. The workshop officially opens with registration at 8:00 am on Thursday, June 18 in Catlett Music Center Lobby (Gothic Hall). We hope participants will meet teachers from around the country and have a chance to exchange ideas and teaching suggestions during their time with us. Be sure to save time to visit the Fred Jones Junior Museum of Art, located across the street from the music school and home of paintings by such artists as Degas, Gauguin, Monet, Pissarro, Renoir, Toulouse-Lautrec, Van Gogh, Vuillard, and others.

### ***Workshop Fees***

The \$170 fee for the workshop should be paid during the Thursday morning 8:00 registration session, although participants are asked to pre-enroll by mail to be assured a space in the seminar and to allow adequate preparation of materials for participants. Walk-ins will be accommodated if at all possible, but are asked to email [jmagrath@ou.edu](mailto:jmagrath@ou.edu) or call (405) 325-4681 by June 15 to insure adequate numbers of handouts and other materials. Please do not pre-pay, but rather provide a check on the first day of the workshop. Checks should be made payable to the University of Oklahoma. We regret that we are unable to accept credit cards.

### ***Housing and Transportation***

A list of area motels and hotels will be posted on the OU Piano Pedagogy Website at <http://pianoped.ou.edu> (click on the link to "Summer Workshops") in March 2009 or sent upon request. Rates generally range from \$55 to \$90 per night in the Norman area. Norman is located approximately 30 minutes from the Oklahoma City airport. Transportation from the airport is readily available to Norman, and information will be posted on the "Summer Workshops" link or sent upon request. A variety of interesting eating, cultural, and entertainment establishments is available in Norman and the Oklahoma City area. Motel room blocks for the workshop are being held at two local motels, but the rooms will be released approximately two weeks prior to the beginning of the workshop. Information on lodging within walking distance will be posted on the website above on the "Summer Workshops" link.

### ***In Summary...***

This workshop is planned to encompass current trends in piano performance and teaching today. Topics and sessions will contain information of interest to piano teachers in varied teaching situations throughout the country and abroad. In short, we believe that there is something for everyone and that you will join us in the summer of 2009.

*Interested participants should write to Dr. Jane Magrath at [jmagrath@ou.edu](mailto:jmagrath@ou.edu) or at the OU School of Music for further information. Pre-registration deadline is June 5, 2009.*

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## SEMINAR FOR PIANO TEACHERS

Featuring some of today's most significant leaders in piano pedagogy. Past artists and clinicians include...

MARVIN BLICKENSTAFF

PHYLLIS LEHRER

GAIL BERENSON

E. L. LANCASTER

JANE BASTIEN

DENNIS ALEXANDER

and others...

### **What others are saying about this workshop...**

*"...very impressed..."*

*"I especially loved the topics and appreciated the recital performers..."*

*"The variety and expertise helped attract me."*

*"I needed to be revitalized - and just watching and listening really helped!"*

*"I intend to use all the new materials in my studio next year."*

*"Thanks for the warm atmosphere-I really like your campus."*

*"Many ideas gleaned. Much thought provoking material..."*

*"This has been an inspiring, enlightening, helpful, fun workshop!"*

*"This was a great conference!"*

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## PRE-REGISTRATION FORM

SEMINAR FOR PIANO TEACHERS, JUNE 2009  
UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA SCHOOL OF MUSIC

Name\_\_\_\_\_

Phone\_\_\_\_\_

Address\_\_\_\_\_

City\_\_\_\_\_State\_\_\_\_\_

Zip\_\_\_\_\_

E-mail\_\_\_\_\_

**This form should be completed and returned to Dr. Jane Magrath, School of Music, Catlett Room 138, University of Oklahoma, Norman, OK 73019 by June 5. The first workshop session is on Thursday, June 18 at 8:45 a.m. in Catlett Music Center, Pitman Recital Hall. Registration begins at 8:00 a.m. Thursday, June 18 in Catlett Music Center, Gothic Hall (lobby of the music building). You may park next door in the Elm Street Parking Garage and you will be given a parking permit for the duration of the workshop.**

\_\_\_\_\_ **I plan to attend as a non-credit seminar applicant.** (College or university credit is not available for this workshop)

- Please pre-register by June 5 by returning this form to:

*Dr. Jane Magrath  
School of Music  
University of Oklahoma  
500 West Boyd Street  
Norman, OK 73019*

The fee of \$170 will be due at the beginning of the workshop. Checks or cash (no credit cards)

\_\_\_\_\_ **Please send hotel/motel information.** Note that hotel/motel and transportation information as well as maps of the area also can be accessed online at <http://pianoped.ou.edu/workshops/html>

\_\_\_\_\_ **I would like to receive a campus parking permit for the workshop.**

*For further information, please email Dr. Jane Magrath at [jmagrath@ou.edu](mailto:jmagrath@ou.edu) or phone at (405) 325-4681. We hope that you can join us for this exciting workshop. Plan to make new friends and be rejuvenated! Continue to check our website for updates and further information at <http://pianoped.ou.edu> (click on "Summer Workshops").*