



SCHOOL OF MUSIC

Presents

Liam Maybury, Clarinet
Syuzanna Kaszo, Piano

April 1st, 2026

7:00pm

Van Cliburn Concert Hall

Program

Clarinet Sonata No. 1 in F minor, No. 1 Op. 120

Johannes Brahms
(1833-1897)

- I. Allegro appassionato*
- II. Andante un poco adagio*
- III. Allegretto grazioso*
- IV. Vivace*

Intermission

When I'm Sixty-Four

John Lennon/Paul McCartney
(1940-1980, 1942-Present)
Arr. Corey Mackey

Dawson Bauman-Herl, Clarinet
Josh Roberts, Clarinet
Aiden Morris, Clarinet
Ana Garcia, Bass Clarinet

Starry Night

Jenni Brandon
(1977-Present)

- I. The Starlight Night*
- II. Bright Star!*
- III. The Sight of Stars*

This recital is given in partial fulfillment of the requirements for a Bachelor's of Music in Clarinet Performance. Liam Maybury is a student of Dr. Corey Mackey.
The use of recording equipment or taking photographs is prohibited.
Please silence all electronic devices, including watches, pagers, and phones.

Program Notes

Brahms, *Clarinet Sonata No. 1 in F minor, No. 1 Op. 120 (1894):*

Johannes Brahms was a German composer of the Romantic era, whose music is known for its structural integrity, emotional depth, and rich harmonies. He was an important figure in the development of music, bridging the gap between the Classical and Romantic eras. Around 1890, Brahms began to consider retirement, writing to Clara Schumann about how he had lost his passion and drive for composition. However, he met Richard Muhlfeld, the principal clarinetist of the Meiningen Orchestra, in 1891, which reignited his enthusiasm for composition. Brahms was so inspired by Muhlfeld's playing that he wrote two sonatas dedicated to him, inscribing "To Muhlfeld, the master of his beautiful instrument, in sincerely grateful remembrance, J. Brahms, Ischl in Summer 1894" into the score.

The opening movement, *Allegro appassionato*, is in sonata-allegro form with an introduction, development, recapitulation, and coda. This movement features stark character and dynamic changes, highlighting the frequent dialogue between the clarinet and piano. The second movement, *Andante un poco Adagio*, is in a four-part rondo form with a coda, mostly in A \flat major. This section of the piece is slow and delicate, offering a sweet contrast to the opening. The third movement, *Allegretto grazioso*, is a *ländler*, a Viennese dance or waltz traditionally played by one or two clarinets accompanied by an accordion. In four sections, this movement is light and charming, featuring graceful rhythms and warm, elegant exchanges between clarinet and piano. The fourth movement, *Vivace*, is in rondo form with four sections. This final movement is passionate and lively, showcasing the beauty between both instruments, and providing a satisfying and beautiful closing to the sonata.

Lennon/McCartney, *When I'm Sixty-Four (1967):*

Paul McCartney first wrote "*When I'm Sixty-Four*" at the young age of fourteen, although the song wasn't officially released until 1967 on the album *Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band*. At the time of original composition in 1956, rock and roll had not yet become a popular genre of music, and McCartney was writing cabaret-style music, believing he was going to end up in the cabaret. Before official release, the song was kept as a backup to perform in case electricity went out at a venue, or their amplifiers were not working. The song showcases ragtime and early jazz elements, featuring a clarinet trio of two soprano clarinets and one bass clarinet, adding texture and overall depth to the piece. This arrangement is for four soprano clarinets and one bass clarinet without vocals or other instruments, showcasing the clarinets' ability to assume a wide range of colors and characteristics, including those of ragtime and early popular music.

Brandon, *Starry Night (2013):* (Program notes by composer)

Jenni Brandon is a renowned composer and conductor known for her collaborations with various musicians and artists, crafting music that is both beautiful and lyrical. Her compositions are characterized by memorable melodies that often draw inspiration from the stories of her collaborators, the natural world, and poetry.

Starry Night for solo B-flat Clarinet is a three-movement work for solo B-flat clarinet that tells of the night skies and our fascination with what lies in them. Using poetry and texts from Gerard Manley Hopkins, John Keats, and Van Gogh (whose painting is also the inspiration for the title of this work), these movements tell of the stars as ‘fire-folk’ and how the sight of stars can make us dream. This work was written for Virginia Costa Figueiredo and premiered in February 2013.

I. The Starlight Night

“Look at the stars! look, look up at the skies!
O look at all the fire-folk sitting in the air!”

- *Gerard Manley Hopkins (1844-1889)*

II. Bright Star!

“Bright Star! Would I were steadfast as thou art-
Not in lone splendor hang aloft the night!”

- *John Keats (1795-1821)*

III. The Sight of Stars

“For my part I know nothing with any certainty,
but the sight of stars makes me dream.”

- *Vincent van Gogh (1853-1890)*