



## Department of Music

presents

Ariel G.S. Méndez, tuba

in a

Graduate Degree Recital

with

Jan Corrothers, piano

and

Kathleen Moore, harp

7:30 p.m.

March 26, 2024

George and Sharon Mabry Concert Hall  
Music/Mass Communication Building

## —Program—

Sonata (Concerto) for tuba and piano (1976)

Bruce Broughton  
(1945)

I. Allegro Moderato

II. Aria

III. Allegro leggiero

Suite No. 1 for Tuba and Piano “Effie Suite” (1976)

Alec Wilder  
(1907-1980)

I. Effie Joins The Carnival

II. Effie Takes A Dancing Lesson

III. Effie Falls In Love

IV. Effie Chases A Monkey

V. Effie Sings A Lullaby

VI. Effie Goes Folk Dancing

Jan Corrothers, Collaborative Pianist

Twenty Characteristic Etudes for Tuba (1990)

Gregory Fritze  
(1954)

#2 “Moderato Espressivo”

## —Intermission—

Con calidez para dos (2022)

Jeremy Ramírez Bejarano  
(1989)

Kathleen Moore, Guest Harpist

Sonata for Tuba and Piano (2023)

Amanda Harberg  
(1970)

I. Fast

II. Largo e cantabile

III. Exuberant

Jan Corrothers, Collaborative Pianist

*In partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Degree of Master of Music  
with a concentration in Instrumental Performance.*

# —Program Notes—

## **Sonata (Concerto) for tuba and piano (1976)**

Bruce Broughton is a Los Angeles born composer mostly known for his work for films and this very idiomatic composition for tuba. On his classical music catalog, some of his works had been played by Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra, Cleveland Orchestra and Chicago Symphony. He has also taught composition in UCLA and USC.

This work, originally called Sonata, but he also re-orchestrated twice as a concerto for both symphony orchestra and concert band with solo tuba. The sonata was composed for Tommy Johnson, the infamous tuba player that is featured in more than 2000 film soundtracks, most notably being the shark in John Williams' Jaws score.

## **Suite No. 1 for Tuba and Piano “Effie Suite” (1976)**

Is general knowledge that tuba can be as delicate as a gazelle, graceful as a swan and majestic as a blue whale. But looking for a middle ground, Alec Wilder decided to write a programmatic suite based on Effie, the Elephant. Effie found himself in a career crisis, he does great in the carnival, but wanted to switch careers, and become a professional dancer but in that process we are going to listen to him falling in love, feeling homesick, being scammed by a monkey, but finally finding his own path.

This story is great, but which is even greater is how clever and crisp the music is written by Alec Wilder. As a New York based composer and songwriter, he was surrounded not only by Robert Beaser y John Corigliano as his teachers in NYU, but great singers as Frank Sinatra, Tony Bennett and Peggy Lee. This suite was dedicated and premiered by his dear friend and titan of the tuba, Harvey Phillips.

## **Twenty Characteristic Etudes for Tuba (1990)**

The Etude No.2 of the first book of the Characteristic Etudes for Tuba, indeed, plays tribute to the prelude of the first cello suite by German composer Johann Sebastian Bach, but in a much more idiomatic way that suites better the tuba. With long phrases and the arpeggiation that might invoke a cello, but with the resonance and incomparable tone of the tuba; Fritze manages himself to display not only his compositional skills as a teacher of Berklee College of Music, but his perspective as a tuba player.

Gregory Fritze has won American Prize in Composition 2022 (Pops Division), first prize in WASBE Composition Contest in 2017. He studied tuba in Boston Conservatory with Chester Roberts and composition with John Adams in the same institution. He also holds his master's and doctorate degrees from Indiana University.

## **Con calidez para dos (2022)**

Commissioned by Georgina Hidalgo (harp professor of the Castella Conservatory, in Costa Rica) and Esteban Villegas (Costa Rican tuba professor and former tuba principal of the Venezuela Symphony Orchestra) this is one of the first works for tuba in a chamber ensemble written by a Costa Rica composer. It has not only beautiful and tender melodies on the higher register of the tuba, but shows the capabilities of the harp in all its potential. Its title translates to the indication With warm, for two, and this piece is not only important for me because it is an amazing piece to put together and to showcase a composer from my own country, but because of how the title might be a programmatic suggestion from my own experience.

This piece feels like a warm hug of those that might be transmitted from the skin to the heart, but also feels like dancing with a baby in your arms, which bring me to the special moments I have been fortunate enough to spend with my own little daughter, Ashley, which I deeply miss and love, being more than 3000km away in this moment.

Jeremy Ramirez is not only a very promising composer, but he also holds the position of professor of composition in the Castella Conservatory. He studied music education in the National University in Costa Rica and received tutelage on composition by Alejandro Cardona and Byron Latouche. Then he also studied composition in the Musical Arts School in the University of Costa Rica, under Carlos Castro and Carlos Escalante instruction. Ramirez has won several national and international awards like the Composition Award in the Latin American International Saxophone Conference in Mexico (2021)

## **Sonata for Tuba and Piano (2023)**

Amanda Harberg and David Zerkel are not only two of the most amazing musicians I have ever had the chance to be around, but also they are a source of inspiration because of how great human beings they are. Both of them are part of the faculty of Interlochen Arts Camp, which was the place of the original connection that made this work possible. During the school year, Zerkel is the professor of tuba and euphonium at the University of Michigan, which commissioned this work. Harberg whose work has been described by the New York Times as “a sultry excursion into lyricism” is a New York based composer, whose Sonatas and instrumental solo works had become the new standards, but her works have been premiered under the batons of incredible figures as Her work has been conducted by Yannick Nézet-Séguin, JoAnn Falletta, David Alan Miller and David Lockington.

Her Sonata for tuba and Piano was premiered with tubist David Zerkel and pianist Liz Ames at the 2023 International Tuba and Euphonium Conference in Tempe, AZ. This work is also the required piece in the finals of the 2024 Falcone Tuba competition Tuba Artist Division.

# Upcoming Events

Mar. 28	Student Recital	12:45 p.m.
Apr. 1	Luke Anderson Sr. Percussion Recital Ciara Simmons Sr. Percussion Recital	5:30 p.m. 7:30 p.m.
Apr. 2	Student Recital Jacob Cantrell Sr. Percussion Recital	12:45 p.m. 7:30 p.m.
Apr. 3	Jeffrey Thomas Jr. Piano Recital <i>in Recital Hall</i>	7:30 p.m.
Apr. 4-6	<b>Mid-South Jazz Festival—a CECA-sponsored event</b>	
Apr. 4	Jazz Fest Concert	7:30 p.m.
Apr. 5	Jazz Fest Concert	7:30 p.m.
Apr. 6	Warren Wolf and the Wofpack <i>Tickets required: <u>Clarksville Community Concert Assoc.</u></i> <i>APSU Students enter free with student ID</i>	7:30 p.m.

*Events listed above are held in the George and Sharon Mabry Concert Hall in the Music/Mass Communication Building and are free and open to the public, unless indicated otherwise.*

If you would like to be added to the Music Department patron database to be notified about future events, please send your name, address and email to [music@apsu.edu](mailto:music@apsu.edu) or call 931-221-7818.

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