



School of Music, Watson Hall



In Tune

School of Music Newsletter
September 2009

Editorial Staff: Martha Urbanik & Katherine Taylor

Welcome New Faculty

The beginning of the new academic year is a time to welcome back old friends, renew acquaintances, and roll out the red carpet for new contributors to the School of Music. There are two new faces in the School of Music:



Alexander Fiterstein, one of the leading clarinetists of his generation, joins the UNCSA Woodwind faculty this year. He was just named a 2009 winner of the Avery Fisher Career Grant. His other honors include a first prize at both the Carl Nielsen International Clarinet Competition in Denmark and the Young Concert Artists International Auditions (YCA). Fiterstein has performed as soloist with orchestras such as Orchestra of St. Luke's, Vienna Chamber Orchestra, Danish National Radio Orchestra, Polish Chamber Philharmonic, Israel Chamber Orchestra, Jerusalem Symphony, Tokyo Philharmonic, China National Symphony, KBS Symphony of South Korea, and the Simon Bolivar Youth Orchestra of Venezuela.

In recital, Mr. Fiterstein has appeared on the "Music at the Supreme Court" Series, at the National Gallery of Art, the Library of Congress, Kennedy Center, 92nd Street Y, Carnegie's Weill Hall, the Gardner Museum in Boston, the Vancouver Recital Society, the

Louvre in Paris, Suntory Hall in Tokyo and the Tel-Aviv Museum.

A member of Chamber Music Society II of Lincoln Center from 2004-2006, Mr. Fiterstein has also participated in the Marlboro Music Festival and toured with Musicians from Marlboro. Additional appearances include the Mecklenburg-Vorpommern Festival in Germany, and the Jerusalem International Chamber Music Festival. He has performed chamber music with Daniel Barenboim, Mitsuko Uchida, Emanuel Ax, and with the American, Borromeo, Daedalus, Fine Arts, Jerusalem, Mendelssohn and Muir String Quartets; he has also appeared with Ensemble Wien-Berlin.

Fiterstein has worked with composers such as Corigliano and Golijov, and has had pieces written for him by Samuel Adler and Mason Bates. He performed the American premiere of Henrik Strindberg's Clarinet Concerto Minne, and recently premiered a new clarinet trio by Paul Schoenfield, which he also recorded for the Naxos label. He appeared as principal clarinetist of the West-Eastern Divan Orchestra conducted by Daniel Barenboim and as guest principal with both the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra under Zubin Mehta, and the Orpheus Chamber Orchestra.

A graduate of the Interlochen Arts Academy and the Juilliard School, his teachers include Charles Neidich and Eli Heifetz. Mr. Fiterstein received awards from the America-Israel Cultural Foundation from 1991-2000. He was a first-prize winner of the Aviv Competitions in Israel, and a recipient of the Bunkamura Orchard Hall Award in Tokyo. He has been on the Concert Artist Faculty of Kean University, NJ since 2005 and has given master classes at the Peabody Conservatory, Boston University and Tel-Aviv University.



Timothy Olsen is the new Kenan Professor of Organ at the University of North Carolina School of the Arts and will also teach at Salem College. Prior to his appointment to UNCSA he was the Wanda L. Bass Chair of Organ and University Organist at Oklahoma City University for four years.

A native of Frost, Minnesota, Dr. Olsen began his study of the organ at the age of 13 with Sandra Krumholz of Fairmont, MN, and went on to further study with Peter Nygaard at Concordia College in Moorhead, MN, where he received a Bachelor of Music degree in 1997. Dr. Olsen continued his study as a student of David Higgs at the Eastman School of Music in Rochester, New York, where he earned the Doctor of Musical Arts and Master of Music Degrees in Organ Performance and Literature as well as a Master of Arts Degree in Music Theory Pedagogy. During his tenure at the Eastman School of Music, Dr. Olsen served as Professor Higgs's teaching assistant, a teaching assistant in

the theory department, and as a faculty member of the Eastman Community Education Division. Prior to his position at Oklahoma City University, Dr. Olsen served on the faculty of Ithaca College and as sabbatical replacement at Binghamton University and Cornell University.

Dr. Olsen is the first-prize winner of the 2002 National Young Artists Competition in Organ Performance sponsored by the American Guild of Organists. He has recorded a compact disc on the NAXOS label and has been featured multiple times on Minnesota Public Radio's *Pipedreams*."

Dr. Olsen has performed solo organ recitals in 23 states including venues such as Trinity Episcopal Cathedral (Portland, OR), Christ Church Cathedral (Lexington, KY), Broadway Baptist Church (Fort Worth, TX), Pasadena Presbyterian Church, and St. Thomas Church (New York City, NY). He frequently presents master classes and workshops for universities, churches, and chapters of the American Guild of Organists, and will be a featured recitalist and workshop presenter at the 2009 Region VII AGO Convention in Albuquerque, NM. Dr. Olsen has also been featured as soloist with orchestras, and performs collaboratively in organ/trumpet recitals, organ duo recitals, and as organist for major choral works including Maurice Duruflé's *Requiem* and *Messe "Cum Jubilo."*

Guests in 2009-10

The School of Music is hosting special guest performances in the 2009-10 season. Highlights include:



music@watson: **Daedalus String Quartet**
January 16

music@watson: **Emerson String Quartet** April 10



Welcome Back...and Stay Healthy!

The return to campus of students and faculty brings many wonderful things: performances, lessons, classes, and renewed friendships, to name just a few. Unfortunately, it also brings the increased risk of shared illness, and with the rise of the H1N1 influenza virus, all of us need to be extra careful. Some simple precautions that are always good to take include:

- Wash hands often with soap and water, especially after coughing or sneezing. Alcohol-based hand sanitizers can be used if soap and water are not available.
- Cover nose and mouth with a tissue when coughing or sneezing. If a tissue is not available, cough or sneeze into your sleeve or elbow.
- In general, avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
- Anyone who is ill should not attend class or visit the cafeteria. But be certain to communicate with your professor!

September Performances

music@watson: **James Miller, Trombone**
(Sat) Sept. 26, 7:30 p.m., Watson Chamber Music Hall
Faculty Artist James Miller in recital. Admission charged.