Guest Artists 2009-10

Texas State School of Music maintains a faculty of 70 outstanding musicians/scholars/teachers. That makes it an extraordinary bonus that so many leading professionals come to the campus each year to add to the artistic mix, giving guest recitals, master classes, and lectures. Below is just a sample of this amazing array of expert guests.

2009-2010

Dr. David Littrell

guest clinician with Symphony Orchestra
Monday, January 25, 2010, 2:00-4:00 pm in MUS 224

- Served as national President of the American String Teachers Association in 2002-2004.
- conducts the University Orchestra and teaches strings at Kansas State University
- conducts the “Gold Orchestra”, 58 Manhattan KS area string students in grades 5-10.


- served six years as Editor of the Books and Music Reviews section of the American String Teacher; editor of ASTA's two-volume String Syllabus
- Editor and Compiler of GIA Publications' two volumes of Teaching Music through Performance in Orchestra

Bob Mintzer

- Bob Mintzer debuts and performs a new Big Band composition commissioned by Texas State Jazz for the Hill Country Jazz Festival Saturday, February 6.
- Bob also appears as guest artist with the Hehmsoth Project at the Elephant Jazz Club, Austin, Friday, February 5, 9:30PM.

In the jazz world Bob Mintzer is a household name, usually associated with being a saxophonist, bass clarinetist, composer, arranger, leader of a Grammy winning big band, member of the Yellowjackets, and educator. Bob has written over 200 big band arrangements spanning a 34 year career, many of which are performed all over the world by both student and pro bands. His own big band has been nominated for 4 Grammy awards and won a Grammy for best large jazz ensemble recording in 2001 with Homage to Count Basie on the DMP label. Bob has recorded 26 solo recordings with both big band and small jazz ensembles. He is an 18 year member of the Grammy award winning band Yellowjackets, and has recorded 12 cds with them. Bob tours 4 months out of the year with the ‘Jackets’. Bob has published 4 jazz etude books (Belwin Jazz), a solo transcription book (Belwin Jazz), a saxophone method book (Kendor Music), 4 saxophone quartets (kendor music), close to 200 big band arrangements (Kendor Music, Belwin Jazz), and has composed several pieces for orchestra. His "Rhythm of the Americas" piece for sax quartet and orchestra (or concert band) was premiered in 2001 by the American Saxophone Quartet and the National Symphony Orchestra at the Kennedy Center in Washington D.C. His "Concertino for Tenor Saxophone, Strings and Winds" was premiered in NYC by the St Lukes Chamber Ensemble in 1992.

Jou-An Hou, cello

A native of Taiwan, Dr. Hou has performed extensively as a soloist and chamber musician in Taiwan, throughout Asia, South Africa, and the United States. She currently performs regularly as a member of the Austin Symphony and Round Rock Symphony, and maintains an active schedule with various chamber ensembles in the Austin area. Her principal teachers were Paul Tobias, Bion Tsang, and Bernard Greenhouse. Her chamber music training was with members of the Orion Quartet, Miro Quartet, Ying Quartet, and Beaux Arts Trio. She has won many awards and scholarships, including the Gold Medal of the Kaohsiung City Cello Competition and Silver Medal of the Taiwan Cello Competition. Dr. Hou has been a member of the Taipei Symphony Orchestra, the Taipei Century Orchestra, and is a founding member of the Gabriel Chamber Orchestra in Taiwan. A versatile collaborator, Dr. Hou has performed with the Austin Eurythmy Ensemble and was featured on the soundtrack of the South by Southwest award-winning film, Artois the Goat. She has also appeared on Da-Ai Television in Taiwan and NPR.

Marcus McGuff, Baroque flute

In September, Marcus McGuff, Baroque flute specialist, came to campus for an informative and engaging seminar on Baroque style and ornamentation to aid in preparation for a flute-student recital of all early 18th century solos and trio sonatas. Dr. McGuff holds degrees from Eastman School of Music, Indiana University and University of Michigan. He is currently a member of La Follia, a period instrument chamber ensemble based in Austin and the Austin Bach Quartet.

Barbara Geer, music educator

Barbara L. Geer has a distinguished record of state and national leadership experience, having served as president of both the Southern Division of MENC and the North Carolina Music Educators Association. She is currently the President of MENC, The National Association for Music Education, and a retired music consultant from the Winston-Salem/Forsyth County (North Carolina) School System. She has taught elementary, middle, and high
Barbara Geer, music educator

In addition to her instructional duties, she has served as a supervisor of the secondary band, choral, and orchestra programs and has provided extensive mentorship for collegiates and new teachers. With BME degree from St. Andrews Presbyterian College in Laurinburg, NC and MM from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, she has received the Kentucky Colonel Award, the Samuel Talmadge Ragan Award for contributions to The Fine Arts of North Carolina, a Lowell Mason Fellowship, and was voted North Carolina Choral Teacher of the Year in 2002.

Joseph Ognibene, horn

Originally from the USA, Joseph Ognibene began his studies in Los Angeles with Ralph Pyle and Vincent De Rosa. Later he went to Germany where he studied with Hermann Baumann and won third Prize at the 1978 Prague Spring Competition. He has been principal horn of the Iceland Symphony Orchestra since 1981 and is also a founding member of the Reykjavik Wind Quintet. With the ISO and RWQ he can be heard in countless CD recordings on the Chandos, BIS and Naxos labels. As a soloist Joseph Ognibene has performed and recorded several works with the ISO and appeared at numerous International Horn Society workshops worldwide. Outside of Iceland he has performed with the London Mozart Players, San Francisco Symphony Orchestra, Singapore Symphony, Frankfurt Radio Orchestra, BRT Orchestra in Brussels and many other premiere ensembles.

Tim Buzbee, tuba

After studying with Ed Jones of the Ft. Worth Symphony, Tim “Buzz” Buzbee was appointed Principal Tuba of the Acapulco Philharmonic. Joining the Chicago Civic Orchestra, he studied with the members of the Chicago Symphony. In 2001 Buzbee won the Principal Tuba position with the Singapore Symphony Orchestra, and after four years there won the same position with the Gävle Symphony, where he performed for one season before being appointed to his current position of Principal Tuba with the Iceland Symphony Orchestra. He has toured throughout the United States, Europe, Mexico, Japan, and most of Asia, giving master classes and performing recitals. Buzbee was invited to perform at the 2002, 2004, and 2008 International Tuba and Euphonium conferences. He has performed with the Chicago Symphony, Swedish Radio Symphony, Malmö Symphony, Helsingborg Symphony, Malmö Opera, Danish Radio Orchestra, Dallas Wind Symphony, Malaysia Philharmonic, and the Shreveport Symphony Orchestra. He has also been featured as a soloist with the Singapore Symphony, Marshall Symphony, and Acapulco Philharmonic. He has performed under the baton of many great conductors, including Boulez, Eschenbach, Barenboim, and Fennell.

Eileen Meyer Russell, euphonium/trombone

A guest recital featured Dr. Russell, professor of low brass and theory at Southwestern University. Dr. Russell received her DMA from Indiana University and a MM degree from the University of Northern Iowa. She is a trombone clinician and artist with C.G. Conn. Articles by Dr. Russell appear in Horn Call, Instrumentalist, International Trombone Association Journal, International Tuba Euphonium Association Journal, Journal of the National Association of College Wind and Percussion Instructors, and Southwestern Musician.

Ralph Sauer, trombone

Former Principal Trombonist with Los Angeles Philharmonic, recording artist, and co-founder of Summit Brass, Mr. Sauer gave a master class for trombone students.

Dr. Özgür Elgün, cello

Currently on the cello faculty and Director of Adnan Menderes University State Conservatory in Turkey, Dr. Özgür Elgün has appeared as soloist with numerous ensembles, including the Mersin State Opera and Ballet Orchestra, Uludag University Academic Chamber Orchestra and the Tempe Symphony Orchestra. He received music degrees from Uludag University and Izmir State Conservatory in Turkey, then a second master's and Doctorate of Musical Arts degree in Cello Performance from Arizona State University School of Music. He has participated in master classes by Janos Starker, Aldo Parisot and Shauna Rolston at Banff and Orford International Music Festivals in Canada. His principal teachers include Nejat Tekebas, Takayori Atsumi, Winifred Mayes and Richard Bock. Dr. Elgün taught cello and coached chamber music at Uludag University and Bursa State Conservatory in Turkey. Last year, Dr. Elgün's students won major prizes at international cello and string competitions. Since 2004, he has also been teaching at International Blue Lake Fine Arts Camp in Michigan.
Jeff Garza
Hailed by the San Antonio Express-News as "a musician of rare authority", Jeff Garza has been principal horn of the San Antonio Symphony since September 2004 and is sought after throughout the United States as a teacher, chamber musician, and orchestral performer. During the summer season, Jeff is principal horn of the Britt Festival Orchestra in southern Oregon and, beginning in July 2010, he will also be joining the Festival Mozaic Orchestra of San Luis Obispo, California as principal horn and as a featured player on the festival's chamber music series. Jeff has previously held principal positions with the Houston Grand Opera, Utah Festival Opera and has served as guest principal horn of the Brevard Music Center Orchestra, Fort Worth Symphony and the St. Paul Chamber Orchestra.

April 23rd, 12:30 pm in Room 216.

Dr. Ian Hominick
A native of Nova Scotia, Ian Hominick has established a solid reputation as a first rate pianist and one of today's most popular artists. He maintains a busy schedule of concerts and piano master classes across the United States, Canada and Europe.