South Texas College
Department of Music

Presents:

STC FACULTY RECITAL
Dr. Kevin Hsuan-Wei Weng Lin
TUBA

Wednesday, May 7th, 2025
7:00 P.M.
South Texas College
Cooper Center for Performing Arts
Theatre

Program

1. Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750), *Duet- Aria from Cantata No.78*
   Euphonium: Dr. Norman Gamboa
   Piano: Dr. Francisco Rocafuerte

2. John Harman (b.1935), *Silhouette* for Tuba and Piano
   Piano: Dr. Francisco Rocafuerte

3. Vladislav Blazhevich (1881-1942), *Solo Etude* for Tuba and Piano
   Piano: Dr. Francisco Rocafuerte

4. Wan-Yun Liang, *Concert piece No.2 "Hakka"* for Tuba and Piano
   Piano: Dr. Francisco Rocafuerte

5. William Penn (b.1943), *Capriccio* for Tuba and Marimba
   Marimba: Mr. Ron Schermerhorn

6. Johannes Brahms (10833-1897), *Trio opus 40*; mov. II, Scherzo
   Piano: Dr. Daniel Cather
   Violin: Dr. Lindsey Gamble

7. Vinicio Meza, *Retratos* for Tuba and Piano; mov. IV, Blue
   Piano: Dr.Daniel Cather

Guest Performers

Dr. Francisco Rocafuerte/ Piano
Dr. Daniel Cather/ Piano
Dr. Lindsey Gamble/ Violin
Dr. Norman Gamboa/ Euphonium
Mr. Ron Schermerhorn/ Marimba

1. Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750), *Duet- Aria from Cantata No.78*

Johann Sebastian Bach remains one of the most significant composers in Western music history. A master of counterpoint and harmony, his prolific output spanned sacred and secular works, including cantatas, passions, concertos, and keyboard music. Bach held numerous posts across Germany during his lifetime and left a profound influence on generations of composers through his intricate and expressive compositions.

Duet-Aria from Cantata No. 78, "Wir eilen mit schwachen, doch emsigen Schritten," originally features soprano and alto voices. This lyrical and flowing movement reflects the believer's eager yet humble journey toward Christ. The reimagined version for tuba/ euphonium transforms the vocal lines into a soulful instrumental dialogue, allowing the instrument to highlight Bach's vocal writing through expressive phrasing and contrapuntal interplay.

2. John Harman (b.1935), *Silhouette* for Tuba and Piano

John Harmon is an American composer, jazz pianist, and educator known for his stylistic fusion of jazz, classical, and folk traditions. As the founder of the group Matrix and a longtime supporter of music education, Harmon's compositions often explore lyrical beauty and improvisatory elements while remaining accessible and emotionally direct.

***Silhouette* for Tuba and Piano** is a lyrical and introspective piece that highlights the warm, expressive capabilities of the tuba. The work was dedicated to renowned tubist Sam Pilafian, who was a former instructor of composer. Harmon crafts a meditative atmosphere where subtle jazz harmonies and flowing melodic lines interact intimately between the piano and tuba.

3. Vladislav Blazhevich (1881-1942), *Solo Etude* for Tuba and Piano

Vladislav Blazhevich was a Russian trombonist, composer, and professor at the Moscow Conservatory. Renowned for his pedagogical contributions to brass playing. Blazhevich wrote numerous method books and solo works that remain staples in brass training around the world, particularly his etudes and concert studies for low brass.

***Solo Etude* for Tuba and Piano** is both a technical and expressive showcase. While labeled as an "etude," the piece transcends pure study with its structured musical form and clear dramatic narrative. It demands agility, control, and dynamic contrast, serving as a bridge between virtuosic display and melodic interpretation. This piece also features extensive lyrical playing in the low register, which made it a standard contrabass tuba audition piece in Europe.

4. Wan-Yun Liang, *Concert piece No.2 "Hakka"* for Tuba and Piano

Wan-Yun Liang is a Taiwanese composer known for her original works for wind and brass instruments. Her compositions have been performed internationally, selected for major competitions, and praised by renowned performers. Notably, her works have been featured by the Leonard Falcone Festival, the Royal Academy of Music, and the International Tuba and Euphonium Association.

Concert Piece No.2 "Hakka" draws inspiration from the heritage of the Hakka people, a Han Chinese subgroup known for their rich folk traditions and distinct musical styles. The work fuses pentatonic motives, rhythmic vitality, and lyrical themes to evoke the spirit and character of Hakka culture. The tuba takes on a storytelling role, alternating between lyrical melodies and more animated, dance-like passages that reflect both pride and nostalgia.

5. William Penn (b. 1943), *Capriccio* for Tuba and Marimba

William Penn is a composer, pianist, and educator with a diverse career spanning classical, electronic, and commercial music. He has taught composition and electronic music at institutions including the Eastman School of Music and the University of South Carolina, and currently works as a producer in Tucson, Arizona. His music has been performed by major ensembles such as the Atlanta and Indianapolis Symphony Orchestras, and featured at venues like Carnegie Hall, Lincoln Center, and the Kennedy Center. Penn has composed for ballet, theater, film, and television, and is a recipient of over 25 ASCAP awards, including the Deems Taylor Award, along with multiple grants from the NEA and Meet the Composer.

***Capriccio* for Tuba and Marimba** is a vibrant, engaging duet that capitalizes on the contrasting timbres of the two instruments. The piece features playful rhythmic exchanges, percussive articulations, and moments of lyrical playing. Its capricious character gives performers space to explore color and expression while highlighting the unusual yet compelling dialogue between tuba and marimba.

6. Johannes Brahms (1833-1897), *Trio opus 40*; mov. II, Scherzo

Johannes Brahms was a central figure in 19th-century Romantic music, often seen as a successor to Beethoven's symphonic and chamber music traditions. A German composer and pianist, Brahms's music is known for its structural integrity, emotional depth, and rich harmonic language.

The second movement **Scherzo** from the ***Horn Trio in E-flat Major, Op. 40*** is a spirited and rhythmically charged contrast to the more reflective outer movements. Originally scored for natural horn, violin, and piano, the work adapts beautifully to other instrumentations. In this setting, the tuba brings a bold, sonorous quality to Brahms's energetic themes and quick motivic exchanges, adding new weight and color to the Romantic scherzo form.

7. Vinicio Meza (b.1977), Retratos for Tuba and Piano; mov. IV, Blue

Vinicio Meza is a Costa Rican composer, clarinetist, and saxophonist whose works reflect a blend of Latin American musical influences with contemporary classical idioms. With experience in both performance and composition, Meza is known for incorporating rhythmic complexity and regional elements into expressive solo and ensemble works.

Retratos ("Portraits") was commissioned by John Manning, Associate Professor of Tuba at the University of Iowa. The fourth movement, ***Blues***, evokes a mood of introspection and longing. Drawing on jazz-inspired harmonies and lyrical phrasing, the music unfolds like a slow blues ballad, offering the tuba an opportunity to explore its most expressive and soulful registers.

Noted by Dr. Kevin (Hsuan-Wei) Weng Lin

Tuba Solo

Dr. Kevin Weng Lin, a native of Taiwan, has cultivated a distinguished career in music performance, education, and ensemble leadership. He is currently a Full-Time Instructor of Brass Studio at South Texas College. Before moving to Texas, Kevin was a freelancer in the Seattle area.

Over the past decade, Kevin has held positions with prestigious ensembles as a seasonal guest members such as the Macao Orchestra (2024–), Billings Symphony (2022–), Civic Orchestra of Chicago (2018–2024), and the New World Symphony (2018–). He has also performed with a wide range of professional groups, including the Seattle Metropolitan Chamber Orchestra, Seattle Music Inc., Chicago Composer Orchestra, Taiwan National Symphony Orchestra, and more. From 2021–2023, Kevin served as a Low Brass Adjunct Pool Instructor at Santa Rosa Junior College.

In addition to his teaching and performance work, Kevin has been an active contributor to the International Tuba/Euphonium Association (ITEA). His involvement includes publishing articles, serving as a guest soloist and artist at ITEC and regional conferences, and participating as a committee member. Through his dedication to music education and artistry, Kevin continues to inspire the next generation of musicians.

Kevin earned his Bachelor's degree from the National Taipei University of Education in Taiwan, Master's degree from DePaul University, and Doctor of Musical Arts degree from the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music. Kevin's primary mentors include John DiCesare, Tim Northcut, Floyd Cooley, Gene Pokorny, Charles Vernon, Mark Fisher, Fu-Hsuan Duan, Jun Miyanishi, and Wendy Chen.

Upcoming Music Events:

(At the Cooper Theater for the Performing Arts unless otherwise noted)

- **Band Ensemble: Band Ensemble Concert #2**

  May 8th, 2025 – 7:30 PM

- **Piano Recital: Tanya Gabrielian**

  May 9th, 2025 – 1:00 PM

- **Piano Masterclass: Tanya Gabrielian**

  May 9th, 2025 – 2:15 PM

- **Choir & Voice Studio Concert**

  May 9th, 2025 – 7:30 PM

- **Piano Studio Recital**

  May 12, 2025 – 7:00 PM

- **Jared Lopez Guitar Sophomore Recital**

  May 14, 2025 – 6:00 PM

- **Clarinet Quintet Recital:**

  May 17, 2025 – 7:30 PM

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