

**Kennesaw State University**  
Upcoming Music Events

**Tuesday, September 23**

Kennesaw State University Faculty Recital

***Faculty String Trio and Friends***

8:00 pm • Bailey Performance Center Concert Hall

**Saturday, September 27**

Kennesaw State University Faculty Recital

***Mary Akerman and Robert Teixeira, guitars***

8:00 pm • Bailey Performance Center Concert Hall

**Tuesday, September 30**

Kennesaw State University Guest Recital

***Keith and Priscilla Jefcoat, pianos***

8:00 pm • Bailey Performance Center Concert Hall

**Thursday, October 2**

Kennesaw State University

***Jazz Ensemble***

8:00 pm • Bailey Performance Center Concert Hall

**Saturday, October 4**

Kennesaw State University Faculty Recital

***Robert Henry, piano***

5:00 pm • Bailey Performance Center Concert Hall

**Monday, October 6**

Kennesaw State University Faculty Recital

***Christina Smith, flute and Friends***

8:00 pm • Bailey Performance Center Concert Hall

For the most current information, please visit  
<http://www.kennesaw.edu/arts/events>



School of Music

presents

**Kennesaw State University**  
**Faculty Chamber Ensemble**  
**And**  
**Guest**

**Thomas Sherwood, guest percussion**

**David Watkins, piano**

**Robert Henry, piano**

**John Lawless, percussion**

Thursday, September 18, 2008

8:00 pm

Dr. Bobbie Bailey and Family Performance Center  
Performance Hall

*Fourth Concert of the 2008-2009 season*

**Kennesaw State University  
School of Music**

**Kennesaw State University  
Faculty Chamber Music Ensemble and Guest**

**Tom Sherwood, guest percussion  
David Watkins, piano  
Robert Henry, piano  
John Lawless, percussion**

Thursday, September 18, 2008  
8:00 pm  
Dr. Bobbie Bailey and Family Performance Center  
Performance Hall

**PROGRAM**

**Sonata Two Piano and Percussion**

**Assai lento: Allegro molto  
Lento, ma non troppo  
Allegro non troppo**

**Bela Bartok  
(1881-1945)**

Dr. Henry is recently completed doctoral studies at the University of Maryland. He has studied closely with pianists Sergei Babayan, Larissa Dedova, Anne Koscielny, David Watkins and Andre Watts. As educator and pedagogue, Mr. Henry presents lectures, masterclasses, Youth Concerts, and is pleased to serve as Artist-in-Residence at Kennesaw State University.

Robert and his wife Meryl make their home in the mountains of Jasper, Georgia. He maintains his web-presence at [www.roberthentry.org](http://www.roberthentry.org).

**John Lawless *percussion***

John Lawless became Director of Percussion Studies at Kennesaw State University in 2004. Principal Timpanist of the Atlanta Opera since 1979, Mr. Lawless was appointed as Principal Timpanist with the Chattanooga Symphony and Opera Orchestra in 1986. Since 1978, Mr. Lawless has performed and recorded as an extra with the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra while maintaining a thriving freelance career as studio and pit percussionist.

A founding member of the Atlanta Percussion Trio, Mr. Lawless performs more than 600 school concerts a year for audiences totaling 300,000 annually. In 2004 the Atlanta Percussion Trio performed as concerto soloists with the Columbus Symphony Orchestra in "The Glory and the Grandeur" by Russell Peck.

A graduate of Georgia State University, Mr. Lawless's teachers include Tom Float, Jack Bell, Cloyd Duff, Paul Yancich, Bill Wilder, and Mark Yancich. Mr. Lawless's previous faculty appointments include those at Georgia State University, Clark Atlanta University, and West Georgia State University.

Career highlights include critically-acclaimed solo debuts at Carnegie Hall and the Kennedy Center, and he recently presented his major orchestral debut with the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra. He performed the opening concert for the 2004 MTNA National Convention. He has presented concerts under the auspices of American Pianists Association and Chopin Foundation of America. As accompanist, he toured with the Grammy-winning Atlanta Boy Choir under the direction of Fletcher Wolfe, and he has accompanied the masterclasses of eminent artists Jerry Hadley, Frederica von Stade and Håkan Hagegård.

Dr. Henry has enjoyed success in nearly every important piano competition in the world, winning the gold medal in four international piano competitions in the 2001-2002 season alone, awards which stand in addition to fourteen other first place awards received throughout his career. On three occasions, juries have spontaneously created special prizes to honor his performances. He was a laureate of the 2003 Seiler International Piano Competition (Germany), and he was recognized in the 2003 Leeds International Piano Competition (England), arguably the world's most revered competition.

A recently named Steinway Artist, he has earned a reputation for giving stunning performances of the most demanding repertoire and for presenting overlooked masterpieces to the public, be they by Bach, Boulanger or Godowsky. In response to Hurricane Katrina, he coordinated and performed in the 2006 'Pianists for New Orleans' tour of the United States, and for these efforts, he was presented with the "Distinguished Service Award" by the Musical Arts Society of New Orleans. His next major project is recording the complete piano music of the late American composer Robert Helps. He is also preparing a staged and narrated production of Franz Liszt's complete *Années de Pèlerinage*, a massive and most original undertaking.

## **Thomas Sherwood**

***guest percussion***

Thomas Sherwood has been the Principal Percussionist of the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra since 1999, holding the endowed Julie and Arthur Montgomery Chair. Tan Dun's Concerto for Water Percussion, performed in March 2005, marked his solo debut with the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra. A native of Fairfax, Virginia, he began his musical career at a young age after he discovered his father's drum set in the garage. He graduated with his bachelor of music in percussion performance from the University of Illinois in Champaign-Urbana. A student of Thomas Siwe, he was the youngest recipient of the Edgard Varèse Memorial Scholarship. He went on to earn his master's degree from Temple University, where he studied with Alan Abel, former associate principal percussionist of the Philadelphia Orchestra.

Prior to joining the ASO, Mr. Sherwood was a member of the prestigious New World Symphony under the direction of Michael Tilson Thomas. With that orchestra he performed on several international tours (Monaco, Israel, England, France, Austria, the Netherlands, and Costa Rica) and made numerous recordings. He also performed frequently with the Naples Philharmonic in Naples, Florida. His summer festival performances include the National Orchestral Institute (College Park, Maryland), the Spoleto Festival Orchestra (Charleston, South Carolina), and Aspen Music Festival (Aspen, Colorado), where he held the Charlie Owen Memorial Scholarship.

An active educator, Mr. Sherwood presented clinics at the 2001 and 2003 Percussive Arts Society International Conventions. He has been a percussion coach for the Atlanta Symphony Youth Orchestra since 2000, and is also the percussion instructor for the ASO's Talent Development Program.

Mr. Sherwood resides in Atlanta with his wife Jessica, their son Leo, and Patsy the pug.

## **David Watkins**

*piano*

David Watkins is director of keyboard studies at Kennesaw State University. He has also served on the summer artist faculty of the Eastern Music Festival. He was a winner of the prestigious Atlanta Music Club Scholarship to attend the New England Conservatory of Music in Boston, where he earned the Bachelor of Music and Master of Music degrees in Piano Performance. He has studied and coached with many renowned artists including Lucille Monaghan, Veronica Jochum, Miklos Schwalb, Robert Helps, Seymour Bernstein, Gary Wolf, Ivan Davis and Lorin Hollander. Mr. Watkins is certified as a master teacher by the Music Teachers National Association. He was President of the American Matthey Association 1994-1998, and was president of Georgia Music Teachers Association from 1994-1996. In addition to his duties at KSU, Mr. Watkins continues to perform and lecture. He presented a piano clinic at the GMEA State Conference in January 2003. In March 2003 he presented a lecture-recital on Liszt's Transcendental Etudes 10, 11, and 12 at the MTNA National Convention in Salt Lake City, Utah. In the 2001-2002 season, he performed Richard Strauss' *Burleske* with Orchestra Atlanta. In October 2003, he performed Tchaikovsky's *Piano Concerto No. 1* with the Atlanta Community Symphony Orchestra. In May 2004, he performed Gershwin's *Rhapsody in Blue* with the Atlanta Wind Symphony.

Mr. Watkins has performed on the national convention programs of the Music Teachers National Association (Little Rock, Nashville, Salt lake City), the American Matthey Association (Dayton Art Institute, San Jose State University, Penn State University), and the College Music Society (St. Louis, Toronto). He presented a lecture recital on the *Petrarch Sonnets* by Liszt at the 1998 National MTNA Convention in Nashville, Tennessee. He also appeared in recital at the 1988 GMTA state convention. His students have received recognition on state, national and international levels. Mr. Watkins has released two commercial recordings on the ACA Digital label.

Mr. Watkins is an active soloist, accompanist and chamber music performer with an unusually varied repertoire at his command. He has performed with the Atlanta Virtuosi Chamber Ensemble in and around his home base of Atlanta and has made appearances with them in such prestigious places as the University of Mexico and the North American Cultural Institute in Mexico City. He has appeared as soloist with the Atlanta Ballet Orchestra, Cobb Symphony Orchestra, Atlanta Wind Symphony, DeKalb Symphony Orchestra. He has performed solo recitals throughout the United States, from California to Massachusetts, under the auspices of many colleges, universities and community concert series, including the Eastern Music Festival, University of Tennessee, University of Georgia, Emory University, Wheaton College, the Atlanta Music Club, Guilford College, San Jose State University and other venues. He also performed regularly with cellist Roger Drinkall; the duo toured throughout the Midwest and South under the auspices of Allied Concert Services. Mr. Watkins has accompanied Metropolitan Opera sopranos Irene Jordan, Linda Zoghby and Patricia Craig in recital. Mr. Watkins made his solo recital debut in New York at Carnegie Recital Hall in May 1986. Mr. Watkins is an international Steinway Artist.

## **Robert Henry**

*piano*

Dr. Robert Henry is an internationally distinguished pianist who has been hailed as a "consummate artist - brilliant, formidable, elegant, and the epitome of control and poise." Born in Atlanta, he began his musical studies at age seven, and has developed a passion for the stage and studio, performing throughout the world as soloist, accompanist and chamber musician, sharing the stage with artists such as conductors Robert Spano, Donald Runnicles and Stefan Sanderling, cellist Shauna Rolston, the Pacifica Quartet, soprano Mary Ann Hart and tenor Sergio Blazquez. His artistry continues to touch and electrify audiences across North America, Europe and Asia.