

KENNESAW STATE UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MUSIC

*Gospel Choir*  
*with guest artist Babbie Mason*

Oral Moses, Director



Saturday, November 11, 2017 at 8 pm

Dr. Bobbie Bailey & Family Performance Center, Morgan Hall

Forty-fourth Concert of the 2017-18 Concert Season

# program

I.

FREDA BATTLE

*How Glorious and Excellent*

PATRICK LOVE

*Write The Vision*

ANDRE COUCH

*God is On Our Side*

JUDITH MCALLISTER

*Like The Dew In The Morning*

Lauryn Davis, soprano

THOMAS WHITFIELD

*With My Whole Heart*

Intermission

II.

**Selections: Babbie Mason**

III.

**Babbie Mason, KSU Gospel Choir and Gospel Choir Alumni**

BABBIE MASON

*Keep The Rocks Silent*

*God Will Open Up The Windows Of Heaven*

DeeDee West, duet with Ms. Mason



## personnel

### **SOPRANOS**

Carla Bates  
Brittany Griffith  
Deedee West  
Emma Bryant  
Lauryn Davis  
Maia Simmons  
Naomi Williams  
Seun Oyelowo

### **ALTOS**

Ashley Hamilton  
Azhane Kennedy  
Anthony Morris  
Nasia Shearod  
Tamera Tillman  
Kourtney Trent  
Marissa Rudison  
Danice Smith

### **TENORS / BASSES**

Matthew Boatwright  
Ben Champion  
David Rhone  
Johannes Kiemes  
Marcel Benoit III  
Travis St. Dic

### **MUSICIANS**

Jeremy Jakari Rush, piano and  
keyboard  
Terea Tarver, piano and keyboard  
Corey Mason, drums

***Special thanks to Alumni members of KSU Gospel Choir for participating in tonight's concert!***

# biographies

**B**abbie Mason is synonymous with creative excellence in the Christian community. An award-winning singer-songwriter of Christian music, her ministry and career have blessed countless thousands for almost three decades. The daughter of a Baptist pastor, Babbie learned to serve



others early in life. Demonstrating exceptional musical skill early in life, she became the church's full-time pianist and choir director by age nine. She often accompanied her father, the late Rev. George W. Wade, as he preached at home and at churches across the Great Lake States. Those humble beginnings paved the way for a ministry that has taken Babbie Mason across the globe where she has encouraged the hearts of young and old alike in churches, conferences and corporate conventions. Gracing the stage in events such as Billy Graham Crusades, Bill Gaither

Homecoming, Women of Faith Conferences, The Grammy Awards and Carnegie Hall, her gifts and talents have allowed her to share the platform with such notable people as Presidents Carter, Ford, and Bush, Former First Lady Barbara Bush, Bill Cosby, NBA legend, Michael Jordan, General Colin Powell, Steve Forbes and Jeff Foxworthy.

An award-winning singer, songwriter, teacher and TV talk show host, Babbie Mason shows no signs of stopping. Taking the message of God's love to an audience of women has led Babbie to author the brand new book, *This I Know For Sure* (Abingdon). Babbie encourages the reader to trust God with life's questions and challenges. She digs deep into God's Word, encouraging the reader to stand on what we know to be true of God's character instead of on how we may feel. *This I Know For Sure* reflects on the faith-filled promises from God's Word, helping the reader to realize that the things we know as Christians outweigh any doubt, uncertainty, or fear of the unknown. As a part of this life-giving theme called *This I Know For Sure*, there are several components, all by the same name, that enhance the book's theme. In the 6 week women's Bible study, Babbie teaches by DVD and shares uplifting music from her brand new CD in each session. The music CD features the song that inspired the theme along with 12 selections

to bolster the believer's faith. Babbie's 25th recording, *This I Know For Sure*, underscores the book and the study's timely message that assures of God's presence and His perfect plan for every believer.

Babbie's compelling passion for women's ministry is ever increasing. A sought after women's conference speaker, Babbie teaches women that they matter to God and that they can overcome any obstacle they may face. Whether it is from the theme of *This I Know For Sure* or her prior work, *Embraced By God*, Babbie brings the theme of these encouraging works to the stage to lead women in exciting worship concerts called, Worship Celebrations For Women. Babbie leads mothers, daughters, sisters and friends in an exciting worship experience with a purpose. Women all over America and abroad have encountered Jesus in an atmosphere of acceptance, forgiveness and love. At each Worship Celebration For Women, the name of Jesus is magnified, and the hearts of women are strengthened as they hear the victorious stories of other women, and celebrate the power of Christian sisterhood.

A favorite guest at Women of Faith Conferences, Kay Arthur's National Women's Conference, Beth Moore Conferences, and Ann Graham Lotz's Just Give Me Jesus Conferences, Babbie encourages hearts of all ages with her warmth, wit and wisdom. She is the host of her own television show, *Babbie's House*, seen all over North America, Africa, the British Isles and the Caribbean Islands.

Babbie Mason's heart-felt lyrics and singable melodies have been translated in over twenty languages. She is the recipient of two Dove Awards for her singing and songwriting abilities and a host of other awards and recognitions line her walls; eleven Dove Award nominations, nominations for the Grammy and the Stellar Awards, including nominations for Female Vocalist of the Year and Songwriter of the Year. In 2010, Babbie Mason was recognized for her contributions in Gospel music by being inducted into The Christian Music Hall of Fame.

Her compositions can be found in just about every genre of Christian music, including Contemporary Gospel, Traditional Gospel, Urban Gospel and Southern Gospel music. Some of the nation's most notorious artists and groups have recorded her compositions, including CeCe Winans, Albertina Walker, Larnelle Harris, Steve Green, The Brooklyn Tabernacle Choir, Alvin Slaughter, Gold City Quartet, and Legacy Five. Many of her compositions are considered modern day church classics. She has garnered two ASCAP Awards and ten number one radio singles for songs like, *All Rise*, *With All My Heart*, *Each One*, *Reach One*, *Trust His Heart*, *Standing in the Gap*, *God Will Open Up The Windows* and *Love Is The More Excellent Way*. You will find

her songs, hymns and spiritual songs among the pages of the world's most famous composers in church hymnals, musicals and choral octavos.

Babbie Mason doesn't hesitate to share her knowledge and experience with up and coming music artists and songwriters. For the last twenty-two years she and her husband Charles have hosted their own music conferences and workshops, most recently, The Inner Circle, where they mentor and minister together, imparting their knowledge with those desiring to enter into the music ministry and business.

Although Babbie Mason is known all over the world for her contributions of encouraging words and beautiful music, she remains humble, recognizing her blessings come from above. It is no wonder that Babbie Mason is blessed with so many gifts and talents. She does not hesitate to share her gifts with the world. The plethora of gifts she possesses is still making room for her. Whether singing, composing music, teaching students, hosting her TV show, speaking to women or sharing her heart through her books, her heart shines through like a bright star. When you meet her, you'll meet a friend with a love for God and people.

The parents of two adult sons, Babbie and Charles Mason live on a farm in West Georgia.

– [www.babbie.com](http://www.babbie.com)

*Professor Emeritus of Voice*

**O**ral Moses, bass-baritone, performs regularly throughout the United States and Europe singing oratorio and recitals with special emphasis on a wide variety of Negro Spirituals and Art Song repertoire by African-American composers.

He has had numerous successes in oratorio and opera performing major roles in *Le Nozze di Figaro*, *Regina*, *La Boheme*, *Albert Herring*, *Tremonisha*, *Rigoletto*, and *Die Zauberflöte* among many others. Symphonic engagements have included works with the Nashville Symphony, the Jackson Symphony, Detroit Symphony, Lansing Symphony, Tacoma Symphony and the Atlanta Symphony.

Dr. Moses has recorded several CDs of art songs and spirituals by African-American composers among which is his CD entitled, *Oral Moses Sings... Songs of America*. His CD, *Extreme Spirituals*, is a collaboration with the controversial eclectic rock/classical band Birdsongs of the Mesozoic on Cuneiform label. In 2001, Albany Records released a collection of spirituals sung a capella entitled *Spirituals in Zion*, which he recorded in the historic

Zion Baptist Church built by enslaved African Americans in 1861. As a solo recording artist for Albany Records, his premiere CD, *Deep River: Songs and Spirituals of Harry T. Burleigh*, is featured in the PBS film documentary



*Antonin Dvorak in America*. His second CD, *Amen! African-American Composers of the Twentieth Century*, continues to be a best seller on the Albany Record label. He has collaborated with gospel artist Babbie Mason on the CD/video project *Treasured Memories: A Celebration of Our Gospel Music Heritage*, documenting the rich legacy of gospel music. A second CD collaboration entitled, *Third Day Offerings: A Worship Album*, allowed him to record with the contemporary Christian rock group Third Day and earned him his

first gold record. His most recent contribution to the work of preserving the Negro Spiritual is the website: [www.thenegrospiritualinc.com](http://www.thenegrospiritualinc.com).

His latest CD is entitled *Come Down Angels and Trouble the Water*. This CD is a collection of spirituals celebrating the Negro Spiritual as a national treasure.

Born in South Carolina, he began his singing career as a member of the United States Seventh Army Soldiers Chorus in Heidelberg, Germany, and as a member of the famed Fisk Jubilee Singers while attending Fisk University following his military career. As a T. J. Watson Fellow, he studied in Germany and Austria and upon his return to the United States, he earned a Masters of Music and a Doctorate of Musical Arts Degree in Vocal Performance and Opera from the University of Michigan. In 1986, as a recipient of a National Endowment for the Humanities Grant, he co-authored a book entitled, *Feel The Spirit – Studies in Nineteenth Century Afro-American Music*, published by Greenwood Press. He is a contributing author in both the third edition of *Notable Black American Women* and the second edition of *Notable Black American Men*, published by Gale Press. He is a frequent guest lecturer and clinician for gospel and Negro Spirituals workshops and conferences.

Dr. Moses is a retired Professor Emeritus of Voice at KSU.



# about the school of music



Welcome to the Bailey Performance Center!

The School of Music at Kennesaw State University is an exciting place! We have a wonderful slate of performances planned for this year's *Signature Series*, and if you have not yet purchased your season tickets, I encourage you to do so as soon as possible. The Atlanta Symphony returns again this year as well as a wonderful slate of other performances.

The Dr. Bobbie Bailey & Family Performance Center is celebrating its 10th Anniversary Season this year. When this building opened in October of 2007, it was transformational for the School of Music and for KSU! It continues to be a jewel in our crown and musicians from around the world love to perform here because of the wonderful acoustic properties of Morgan Hall.


We would love to have you join us the weekend of October 7th-8th. We will have an alumni recital on the 7th and a grand celebration Sunday afternoon October 8th, with full choir and orchestra to celebrate all this Center has meant to us these past 10 years! In honor of the Bailey 10th Anniversary, we will officially launch our *Name a Seat Campaign* during our celebration in October. What a wonderful way to honor a loved one or to provide for future programming for Morgan Hall.


I look forward to a long and rewarding relationship with you. With your continued support of music and the arts, I look forward to all that we will accomplish together!


A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Stephen W. Plate".


Stephen W. Plate, DMA  
Director, KSU School of Music

## connect with us

 /musicKSU

 @musicKSU

 /musicKSU

 @musicKSU

[musicKSU.com](http://musicKSU.com)

Visit the Live Streaming page on [musicKSU.com](http://musicKSU.com) to watch live broadcasts of many of our concerts and to view the full schedule of upcoming live streamed events.

*Please consider a gift to the Kennesaw State University School of Music.*

<http://community.kennesaw.edu/GiveToMusic>