UPCOMING EVENTS

IOWA FLUTE FESTIVAL

Saturday-Sunday, February 3-4, all day GBPAC & Russell Hall

ALEXANDER PERSHOUNIN, DOUBLE BASS

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 5 AT 8 P.M. DAVIS HALL, GBPAC

ANN BRADFIELD, SAXOPHONE

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 8 P.M. DAVIS HALL, GBPAC

THE SCHOOL OF MUSIC CALENDAR OF EVENTS IS AVAILABLE ONLINE AT MUSIC.UNI.EDU/EVENTS. TO RECEIVE A HARDCOPY, PLEASE CALL 319-273-2028.

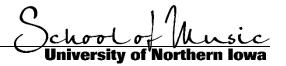
In consideration of the performers and other members of the audience, please enter or leave a performance at the end of a composition.

Cameras and recording equipment are **not permitted**. Please turn off all electronic devices, and be sure that all emergency contact cell phones and pagers are set to silent or vibrate.

This event is **free** to all UNI students, courtesy of the Panther Pass Program.

Performances like this are made possible through private support from patrons like you! Please consider contributing to School of Music scholarships or guest artist programs. Call 319-273-3915 or visit www.uni.edu/music to make your gift.





A FIDDLER'S TALE BY WYNTON MARSALIS

UNI FACULTY SEPTET

WITH
MATTHEW WEEDMAN,
NARRATOR

PROGRAM

A Fiddler's Tale By Wynton Marsalis UNI Faculty Septet

Part 1

Narrator: "It Always Starts..."

Fiddler's March

Scene 1. Narrator: "Her Name Is Beatrice Connors."

Fiddler's Soul

Narrator: "She's Floating On A Dream Cloud..."

Fiddler's March Reprise

Scene 2. Narrator: "Now That He Has Her Going..."

Reprise 2: Fiddler's March

Scene 3. Narrator: "Beatrice Connors Is Now..."

Pastorale

Devil: "More Words On Fame"

Fiddler's Soul Reprise

Part 2

Scene 4. Narrator: "Keeping One Hundred Dollars..."

Happy March

Scene 5. Narrator: "The Illness Of The Land..."

Little Concert Piece

Narrator: "Musicians, You Must Play..."

Tango, Waltz, Ragtime

Narrator: "The Music Causes The Savior..."

Devil's Dance

Narrator: "The Music Was Too Strong..."

Little Chorale

The Devil's Song (BZB Speaks)

The Great Chorale

Narrator: "But Beatrice Connors..."

The Blues On Top

UNI Faculty Septet:

Ross Winter, violin
Amanda McCandless, clarinet
Cayla Bellamy, bassoon
Randy Grabowski, trumpet
Anthony Williams, trombone
Ryan Frost, percussion
Alexander Pershounin, bass
Danny Galyen, conductor

PROGRAM NOTES

The story and layout of musical sections of A Fiddler's Tale (1999) are shaped with obvious reference to The Soldier's Tale by Stravinsky, the everyman version of Faust written by C.M. Ramuz. While Marsalis employs some musical motives and gestures from Stravinsky's work, A Fiddler's Tale is very much Marsalis' own composition.

In the Ramuz tale, written during World War I, a soldier on his way by foot to his hometown on leave encounters the devil and trades his violin (representing his soul) to the Devil for earthly riches. In this version, adapted by Stanley Crouch, a woman jazz fiddle player is seduced into commercialism by the Devil, a record producer named Bubba Z. Beals. The Fiddler 's life becomes miserable without her true creativity. A man whose love can redeem her, is thrown into a coma by Bubba. The Fiddler can save him -- and open the possibility of her own redemption -- only by breaking the Devil's commercial hold and creating music of genuine beauty in a pivotal series of three dances.

A Fiddler's Tale uses the same instrumentation as the Stravinsky work: clarinet and bassoon, trumpet and trombone, violin and double bass, and percussion. The suite follows the outline of Stravinsky's suite exactly, sometimes with exactly the same title: (1) "The Fiddler's March," (2) "A Fiddler's Soul," (3) "Pastorale," (4) "Happy March," (5) "Concert Piece," (6) "Tango, Waltz, Ragtime," (7) "The Devil's Dance," (8) "Big Chorale," and (9) "The Blues on Top."

Marsalis announces the jazz element of this work immediately with the drum playing a jazz cadence. Intriguingly, the fiddle is the last instrument to enter "The Fiddler's March," which is a straight-ahead jazz march that gives all the instruments at least one solo moment. "A Fiddler's Soul" is a happy number with a relaxed swing, seemingly based on a prominent three-note double stop motive from the Stravinsky work's "Scene by a Brook." The following "Pastorale" is a lonely piece; the contrasting "Happy March" seems to be ironic in its title -- there are bitter moments and an unsettled feeling overall. "Concert Piece" has, as its main section, rather trite commercial jazz, perhaps portraying the compromised concerts the Fiddler plays.

The three redemptive dances swing a lot more than Stravinsky's originals, and "The Devil's Dance" wails in frustration. "Big Chorale" is blues-tinged, and in the concluding "The Blues on Top," a modern blues emerges, ultimately leading to a raucous conclusion.