

The Ohio State University Clarinet Spectacular 2012

By Katie Morell & David Robinson

Beginning the 2012-2013 academic-year, The Ohio State University welcomed Dr. Caroline Hartig as the new Professor of Clarinet to the School of Music faculty. Dr. Hartig brought with her an annual tradition, the Clarinet Spectacular, which she had previously established at Michigan State University. From October 27 through October 28, The Ohio State University experienced its first ever "Clarinet Spectacular"! The weekend had something for everyone. We hosted various performances by guest artists and students. Master classes were given by both Dr. Hartig and our special guest artist, Franklin Cohen, principal clarinet of the Cleveland Symphony Orchestra.

The OSU Clarinet Spectacular 2012 also marked the creation of "The Ohio State University Clarinet Spectacular Honorary Advisory Board & Distinguished Alumni". These members include Dr. Donald E. McGinnis (Professor Emeritus), Professor James Pyne (Professor Emeritus), Richard Stoltzman, Professor Howard Klug, Dr. Frederick Schmidt, and Dr. Charles Atkinson.

The festival kicked off with Dr. Hartig's master class. Participants included various students from right here in Columbus to as far away as Montana. Later that afternoon was the OSU Studio Showcase Recital. This featured the following students from Dr. Hartig's clarinet studio: Annika Baake, Amy Conley, Jackie Bretz-Eichorn (with special guest Kelsey Pyne on harp), Justin Johnston, Garrett Lefkowitz, Adrienne Marshall, Tanya Mewongukote, Katie Morell, David Robinson, Rachel Tookolo, and Katrina Veno. These students were very grateful to their accompanist, Anna Vinnitsky.

Presentations by vendors included Michael Skinner from Vandoren/DANSR, Wolfgang Lohff from Lohff & Pfeiffer and Lisa Canning of Lisa's Clarinet Shop. Other vendors in attendance included Buffet Group USA, Rico/D'Addario, Buckeye Brass and Winds, Music and Arts, Ann Arbor Clarinet Connection, and Weait Music. Many thanks to these vendors for their attendance and wonderful products! Special thanks also for the donations contributed for the prize drawings at the conclusion of Saturday evening's Artist Recital.

The Artist Recital featured Dr. Hartig and clarinetists from the Columbus area including the "Tour d'Anches" (Karen Pfeifer, oboe; Nancy Gamso, clarinet; Karen Atria, bassoon), selections from Oliver Messiaen's *Quatuor pour la fin du Temps* (Woody Jones, clarinet; David Niwa, violin; Pegsoon Wang, cello; and Mariko Kaneda, piano), and "Harmonie Schmarmonie" (Karen Pfeifer and Steve Rosenberg, oboes; Robert Pfeifer and Charles Atkinson, clarinets; Emily Patronik and John Gorman, bassoons; Kimberly McCann and Heidi Wick, horns; Kristen Kurival and McKenna Klontz, sopranos). The Artist Recital closed with Dr. Hartig's excellent recital of varied repertoire, also accompanied by Anna Vinnitsky.

Once the audience and festival participants thought there could not be any more clarinet fun - the OSU Clarinet Spectacular had a prize drawing with some incredible items to be won! The GRAND PRIZE was a *brand new professional line Buffet R-13* clarinet from The Buffet Group USA!! The winner of this grand prize was Dylan Lloyd, a Master of Music student from the University of Louisville. Congratulations Dylan and a large thank you to Buffet Group and all who contributed to the prize drawings.

The day concluded with yet another recital for clarinet enthusiasts including a World Clarinet Ensemble conducted by Daniel Cavalancia, Jr., the "Stephanie Hanson Jazz Combo" and "Slivovitz Klezmer Ensemble", Will Cicola, clarinetist and director.

The next day opened with the festival clarinet choir performance conducted by Dr. Hartig and Dr. Scott Jones, Associate Conductor of Bands at OSU. The final event and highlight of our last day of the festival was the master class by Franklin Cohen. We are extremely grateful to Mr. Cohen for sharing his amazing knowledge and talents with us. This wonderful master class wrapped up the weekend-long festival, and everyone traveled back home safely with lots of music and a few new friends!

The Ohio State University clarinet studio cannot give enough thanks to our generous sponsors. This event would not have been possible without them! We would like to acknowledge The Ohio State School of Music (Professor Richard L. Blatti, Director), College of Arts and Sciences (Dr. Joseph Steinmetz, Dean), and Mr. William Morris. Buffet Group USA also played a major role in helping make this festival possible, with special thanks to Francois Kloc (Vice President of Buffet Group USA), and Al Maniscalco (Division Manager of Buffet Group USA).

The Ohio State University Clarinet Studio will host its Second Clarinet Spectacular in 2013. Stay posted for dates and details. We hope to see you in Columbus! For more information about The Ohio State University Clarinet Studio or the Clarinet Spectacular event, please contact Dr. Caroline Hartig, Hartig.15@osu.edu
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