Dinner and a Show, Made Simple.

Visiting the Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center at the University of Maryland for an upcoming performance? Make a night of it, thanks to a new partnership with The Common. Everything you need for a great night on the town is right at your fingertips, including:

- Complimentary parking and shuttle service to and from the show of your choice.
- 10% discount on all dinners at The Common, the perfect place for a pre- or post-theater meal.
- Exclusive overnight rates at The Marriott Inn & Conference Center, should you decide to treat yourself to a getaway.
- $5 savings on performance tickets

Visit TheCommonCollegePark.com to make your reservation today!

Dinner reservations and valid show tickets are required for all promotional offerings. Must present show tickets for discount. Alcohol is excluded from dinner discount. For overnight package use promotional code IGPZ. Based on availability. Use code MARriott1 at ClaricesmithCenter.umd.edu/Calendar to redeem $5 off performance tickets.

Proud partners with:

Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center

KRONOS QUARTET

Performing compositions by students of the UMD SCHOOL OF MUSIC

Scott AuCoin
Duncan Booteight
Geoff Sheil

Thursday, February 20, 2014 7PM
Joseph & Alma Gildenhorn Recital Hall
Ken's Story focuses on the story of Ken from Brunswick, Maryland in Scott Pasfield's portrait book *Gay in America*. Pasfield traveled all over the United States and took portraits of a variety of gay men from every state and allowed them to share their stories in a printed component. The actor reads the text over top of the quartet as he and the quartet engage in a type of dialogue. The music of the quartet aims to reflect the varied emotions conveyed in Ken's story and, like his story, the quartet make a journey from a feeling of unevenness to one of unity in the end. The quartet play in a variety of textures and use a variety of sounds. There are moments of melodic movement and also moments where the different sounds of the strings are utilized. The majority of the music is played together in a homophonic texture. For me, this reflects the idea of many people coming together with one voice to, as Ken says, “remind you that you are valuable, just as you are.”  

— Scott AuCoin

Scott AuCoin is a student of Dr. Mark E. Wilson

*Ken; Brunswick, MD. *Gay in America.* 111-113. Copyright 2011 Welcome Books

Per Aspera ad Astra (*Through Hardship to the Stars*) is written as tribute to those who tire endlessly to expand humanity’s potential by making space exploration possible. In 1980, astrophysicist Carl Sagan produced the now famous 13-part educational documentary *Cosmos: A Personal Voyage*. For the first time, many Americans’ eyes were opened to the vast and primarily undiscovered potential of manned space flight.

Written in a single movement with a roughly through-composed form, *Per Aspera ad Astra* derives the vast majority of its melodic material from a very loosely adapted form of rotation theory, a procedure for melody generation pioneered by Dr. Scott Meister. Bird’s-eye views of the solar system in which we reside — taken at various significant points in our history, including the launch of Apollo 11 and the final launch of the space shuttle Atlantis — were mapped onto a graph of pitch versus time, and then rotated around a focal point; in this case, the sun, represented on these graphs and throughout the piece by the pitch C#. Various rotations of the primary melodic material are used to generate harmonies and secondary melodies.

— Duncan Boatright

Duncan Boatright is a student of Dr. Lawrence Moss

Wild has several possible meanings. It could be delicate and elusive, as a rare wildflower. It could be boisterous and aggressive, as a pack of wild dogs, or it could be lush and dense, as a wild overgrown landscape. These three interpretations loosely inform each of the three contrasting sections of the piece.

— Geoff Sheil

Geoff Sheil is a student of Dr. Mark E. Wilson

Kronos Quartet’s ongoing residency at the Clarice Smith Center includes working closely with composition students in the UMD School of Music.

Each season Kronos works with selected student composers in creating new works, refining the pieces for maximum musical impact and presenting initial readings of the works in a public event.

KRONOS QUARTET STUDENT COMPOSITION READING | 6

claricesmithcenter.umd.edu | 301.405.ARTS (2787) | 7
SCOTT AuCOIN (composer) is a senior at the University of Maryland studying music composition and music education. He has studied composition under Mark Hardy and Martin Amlin. AuCoin has also participated in composition workshops with John Harbison, Dominick Argento and eighth blackbird. Two-time winner of the Baltimore Choral Arts Society Student Composer Project, he has been commissioned by the UMD Men’s Chorus and local high schools. AuCoin currently studies composition under Mark E. Wilson. He will be graduating in May 2014, and will be seeking employment as a music teacher. Hear more at www.soundcloud.com/scottieau.

DUNCAN BOATRIGHT (composer) is a composer, educator and percussionist currently residing in College Park, Maryland. He received his Bachelor of Music degree in music composition and theory from Appalachian State University in 2012, and is currently pursuing a Master of Music degree in music composition at the University of Maryland, College Park. Boatright’s style of composition spans a number of genres and all combinations of instrumentation. In addition to a standard repertoire of works for chamber ensembles and full-sized string orchstras and wind ensembles, he has written for unaccompanied Game Boy, mixed media (electronic accompaniment for a live instrument) and a variety of steel drum ensembles.

GEOFF SHEIL (composer) is an award-winning Irish composer based in the Washington DC area. His work ranges from contemporary chamber music to jazz and electronic music, and has been performed across North America and Europe. He has studied at the University of Cambridge, Massachusetts Institute of Technology and the University of South Florida, and holds degrees in natural science, composition and conducting. Sheil is now pursuing a DMA in composition at the University of Maryland, College Park, on the prestigious Flagship Fellowship. To find out more, please visit www.geoffsheil.com.

For 40 years, San Francisco’s KRONOS QUARTET has pursued a singular artistic vision, combining a spirit of fearless exploration with a commitment to expanding the range and context of the string quartet. In the process, the GRAMMY-winning Kronos has become one of the most celebrated and influential groups of our time, performing thousands of concerts worldwide, releasing more than 50 recordings of extraordinary breadth and creativity, commissioning more than 800 new works and arrangements for string quartet, and collaborating with renowned artists of myriad disciplines and styles from around the globe. Kronos is the only recipient of both the Polar Music Prize and the Avery Fisher Prize and has also earned a GRAMMY for Best Chamber Music Performance (2004) and “Musicians of the Year” (2003) honors from Musical America.

Kronos Quartet
P. O. Box 225340
San Francisco, CA 94122-5340
Tel: 415.731.3533
Fax: 415.664.7590
www.kronosquartet.org
www.facebook.com/kronosquartet
www.myspace.com/kronosquartet