The series began in 1980 and continues the tradition of "Music Appreciation Programs" started by Hugh Hodgson in the 1930s. Proceeds from ticket sales to these concerts and contributions made by you are the primary means through which School of Music scholarship funds are raised each year.

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All Thursday Scholarship concerts will take place at 7:30 in Hodgson Hall.
The University of Georgia Symphony Orchestra, under the baton of conductor Mark Cedel, will open the series with a program of orchestral masterpieces. Since 2000, the orchestra has been the "kick-off" event for this series. This concert promises to be an exciting start to another season of great music presented by the talented students and faculty of the Hodgson School of Music.

Join the UGA Symphony Orchestra and the UGA Choirs for music of the Season. Mark Cedel and Daniel Bara, conductors.

The Hodgson Wind Ensemble welcomes guest composer Omar Thomas for his uplifting, hand clappin', foot stompin', "Come Sunday," music that promises to get you on your feet! You won't believe this piece. Like nothing you've heard before and you'll want to hear it again and again. Also on the program is David Maslanka's heart-stopping Symphony No. 4 and Donald Grantham's J'ai ete au bal (I went to a dance). A Peruvian Fanfare opens the evening with revelry and contagious dance rhythms.

Join the UGA Symphony Orchestra and the UGA Choirs for music of the Season. Mark Cedel and Daniel Bara, conductors.
1.23.20 || UGASO Concerto Competition Winners Concert

Students from all degrees compete to perform with the orchestra. The soloists performing in this concert are selected after advancing through a rigorous competition process judged by faculty within the Hugh Hodgson School of Music.

1.30.20 || Jackie Hartenberger’s Common Hour:

Jackie Hartenberger’s “Common Hour” is inspired by the music students’ weekly meeting, fondly called the Common Hour. This concert will bring together a variety of Hugh Hodgson School of Music Faculty to perform familiar music in a novel way. Experience music that has been reimagined to include voice, strings, winds, percussion, and electronics!

2.13.20 || Guitar & Friends

Guitarist Daniel Bolshoy is joined by faculty members Shakhida Azimkhodjaeva, Levon Ambartsumian, David Starkweather, Milton Masciadri and others in an evening of chamber music for guitar and strings. On the program: Quintet for guitar and string quartet by Mario Castelnuovo-Tedesco, Guitar concerto by Efrem Podgaits, Echoes for Violin and Guitar (premiere) by Podgaits and duos for guitar and bass, as well as guitar and cello.
This concert will celebrate 100 years of a woman’s right to vote with performances of works by women composers from a broad cultural and historical spectrum. There will be works from such luminaries as Clara Schumann and Amy Beach, along with our contemporaries. There will be a variety of styles and instrumentations all performed by the Hugh Hodgson School of Music Faculty.

3.5.20 || Hodgson Singers
Join The UGA Hodgson Singers, UGA’s flagship choir, for an evening of choral music exploring many styles, moods, languages, and cultures. Daniel Bara, conductor.

4.2.20 || The 19th Amendment: A Century of Progress
This concert will celebrate 100 years of a woman’s right to vote with performances of works by women composers from a broad cultural and historical spectrum. There will be works from such luminaries as Clara Schumann and Amy Beach, along with our contemporaries. There will be a variety of styles and instrumentations all performed by the Hugh Hodgson School of Music Faculty.
Faculty Artist Series

2019

Monday, September 16: Amy Pollard, bassoon
Wednesday, October 9: Brandon Craswell, trumpet
Monday, November 25: David Starkweather, cello

2020

Tuesday, January 14: Josh Bynum, trombone
Tuesday, February 11: Shakhida Azimkhodjaeva, violin
Monday, March 2: Levon Ambartsumian, violin

All concerts will be at 7:30 in Ramsey Hall
The Col Legno Duo takes its name from the Italian musical term meaning “with the wood.” Amy Pollard (bassoon) and Scott Pollard (marimba/percussion) have performed recitals and presented clinics together to both national and international acclaim. Based in Athens, the husband and wife duo have toured in South America as well as at major venues and conferences across the U.S. With an eye towards expanding the repertoire of this unique instrumental combination, the duo has transcribed and commissioned numerous works.

Trumpet professor and brand new father, Brandon Craswell, will perform his Faculty Artist Series concert in a program entitled “Songs for my Daughter.” Accompanist Greg Hankins will be collaborating with Craswell to create arrangements and transcriptions of familiar children’s songs and lullabies. The program will be a mix of classical, jazz and pop.

Cellist David Starkweather will be joined by pianist Damon Denton in a program featuring the Rachmaninoff cello sonata. This monumental work was Rachmaninoff’s last chamber work, one of the first results of successful hypnotherapy curing his 3-year long inability to compose. Starkweather and Denton have collaborated on numerous past occasions, and this promises to be a lovely performance of some of Rachmaninoff’s most touching and poignant melodies.
Josh Bynum will be joined by faculty pianist Anatoly Sheludyakov and his other brass faculty colleagues on a varied program of solo and chamber works for trombone. The program will include Gary Kulesha’s “Sonata for Trombone & Piano,” Jacques Casterede’s “Concertino for Trumpet, Trombone, & Piano,” John Stevens’ “Triangles for Horn, Trombone, & Tuba,” Joseph Canteloube’s “Selections from Chants d’Auvergne” and Joseph Turrin’s “Fandango for Trumpet, Trombone, & Piano.”

Levon Ambartsumian, violin, will play a program entitled “Undivided Romanticism” which will open with Schumann’s most popular “Violin Sonata in A minor.” The program features Brahms’ “Adagio,” from the beloved Clarinet Quintet, which was arranged for Ambartsumian as a birthday gift by Russian composer Efrem Podgaits. The program will end with “Sonata in C minor” by Edward Grieg. Evgeny Rivkin will be joining on piano.

Shakhida Azimkhodjaeva, violin, will perform a program entitled “The Many Faces of 20th Century Music,” that will highlight composers from eastern Europe, including the likes of Martinu, Dohnanyi, Szymanowski, Prokofiev, to name a few. She will be joined by faculty collaborative pianist Anatoly Sheludyakov.
University of Georgia Opera Theatre is a part of University of Georgia's Hugh Hodgson School of Music. Each year, the opera department produces two full opera productions, in addition to an opera scenes program and outreach events. The fall production is created in collaboration with the UGA Symphony Orchestra and the UGA Choral Department. For the spring production, guest stage directors and guest conductors are invited to work with our cast to prepare for the spring performances. Professor Frederick Burchinal, Metropolitan Opera veteran and international baritone, leads as Director of Opera, producer, and stage director in collaboration with Ms. Kathryn Wright as Principal Opera Coach.

2019
Friday, October 18
7:30 Hodgson Hall
Sunday, October 20
3:00 Hodgson Hall

2020
Spring Opera
Friday-Saturday, February 21-22
7:30 Fine Arts Theatre

Spring Opera
Sunday, February 23
3:00 Fine Arts Theatre