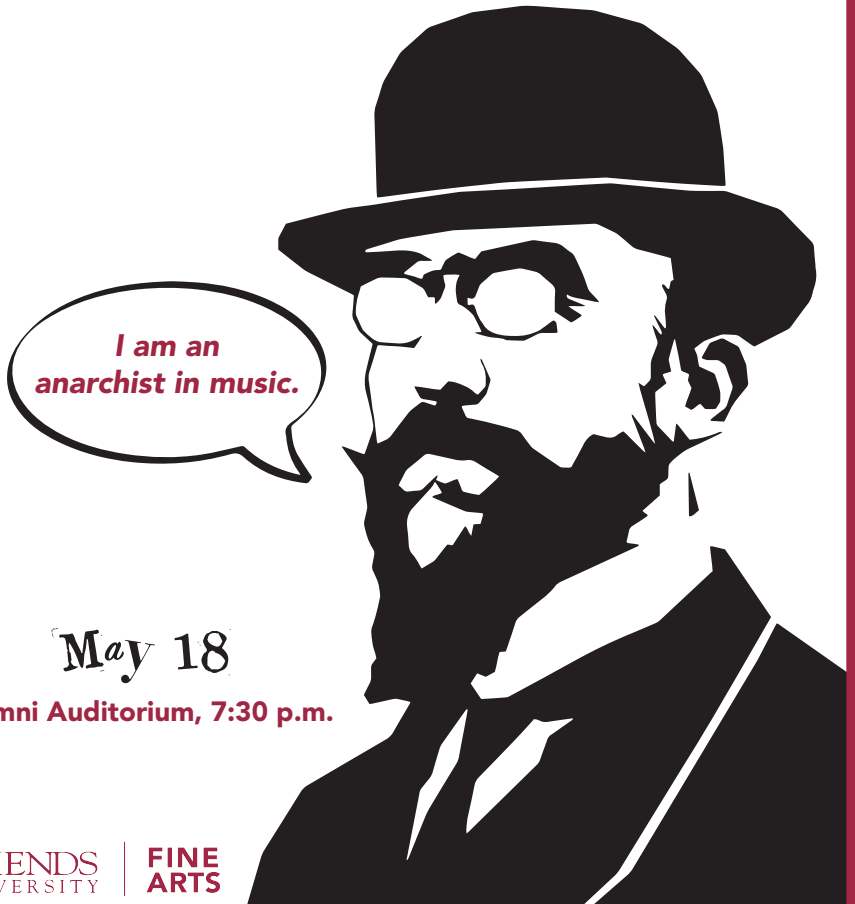


SaTiEDay

Finale Concert

FEATURING

Dr. James Knight | Dr. Nathanael May | Dogs



*I am an
anarchist in music.*

May 18

Alumni Auditorium, 7:30 p.m.

**FRIENDS
UNIVERSITY**

**FINE
ARTS**

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

Friends University is excited to share the witty and eccentric music of French composer, Erik Satie (born May 17, 1866, died July 1, 1925). Throughout his life, he flouted convention, styling a music that has influenced generations of composers around the world. The focal point of our celebration has been a piece he composed in 1893, entitled Vexations. This relatively unassuming work was not performed until 1963, due to Satie's instruction that the performer repeat it 840 times in a row. Our celebration of Vexations took place earlier today, the first time it has been performed by multiple pianists simultaneously throughout a city. Vexations is also the music you've been listening to as we ready the stage for tonight's performance!

The program you will hear tonight highlights Satie's most well-known works for the piano, alongside music of his contemporaries. Our goal is to entertain, educate, and embody the timeless spirit and humor of his music; we hope you enjoy!

Dr. Nathanael May, Tim & Gail Buchanan Division Chair of Fine Arts

Thank you for joining us in our celebration of the music of Satie, the time period in which he lived, and specifically the idiosyncratic piece Vexations, which was performed for the first time in Kansas earlier today.

It has been our joy to dive into this music and to gain more of an understanding of the mind of Satie and the period in which he lived. He was one of the most original composers who ever lived and much of his music anticipates certain trends in music that only came into full fruition many years later. The members of Les Six were certainly influenced by the simplicity of his writing, and looking further ahead, the composer John Cage was also deeply influenced.

As strange a personality as he was, he still gave us a legacy of very beautiful music and also a new way of looking at music that continues to inspire today.

Dr. James Knight, Assistant Professor of Piano

Some "Satie-Stats"

Satie only ate foods that were white in color! Be sure to join us for our fun food treat immediately following the concert!

Known as Mr. Poor by his friends, Satie carried a hammer wherever he went.

Satie used a small inheritance to buy 12 grey-velvet suits, wearing a different one each day!

Satie's "furniture music" was designed specifically to be ignored, and paved the way for Muzak, or "elevator music"!

Satie's music for the ballet Parade caused such a stir that he was jailed for 8 days!

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Dr. Amy Bragg Carey

Friends University President

Leigh Barton-Green

Fine Arts Events Coordinator

Robyn Mabe

Fine Arts Administrative Assistant

Bob Hett

Director of Technical Services

Eric Cale

*Executive Director,
Wichita-Sedgwick Historical Museum*

Sylvia Eckes

Consultant

Ann Garvey

Sponsor, The Annie Foundation

Alisha Gridley

Executive Director, CityArts

Laura Roddy

Vice President for Advancement, Exploration Place

Stacy Holly

Coordinator of Learning, Engagement and Partnerships, Wichita Art Museum

Mariah Sullivan

Event Sales Manager, Sedgwick County Zoo

Rachel McDaniel

Community Partnership Coordinator, Mark Arts



PROGRAM

Pianists

Dr. James Knight
Dr. Nathanael May
Cindy Blasdel
Joy Lenau
Dr. Meg Gray

The Bureaucrat

Ryan Smith

Soloist

Davis Green

Dog Handler

Leigh Barton-Green

"I want to write a play for dogs...The curtain rises on a bone."

Three Genuine Flabby Preludes (for a dog, 1912).....Erik Satie
Severe Reprimand (1866-1925)
Alone in the House
We Play

~ Acknowledgments ~

Sicilienne (1893).....Gabriel Faure
(1845-1924)

March of the Grand Staircase (1913).....Erik Satie
from Picturesque Childishness (1866-1925)

Gymnopedie #1 (1888).....Erik Satie
(1866-1925)

Excerpts from Sonatina in C.....Muzio Clementi
(1752-1832)

Bureaucratic Sonatina (1917).....Erik Satie
(1866-1925)

Gnossienes #1 (1890).....Erik Satie
(1866-1925)

PROGRAM

Ode to SA*t*iE: The Alpha and the Enigma.....un Compositeur Célèbre
(ca. 2024)

world premiere performance

Crooked Dances.....Erik Satie
from Cold Pieces (1897) (1866-1925)

In a Landscape (1948).....John Cage
(1912-1992)

Dreaming, from Four Sketches (1892).....Amy Beach
(1867-1944)

Reflets dans l'eau (1905)Claude Debussy
(1862-1918)

Defile Galop (1893).....Henri d'Aubel
(1830-1899)

Le Piège de Méduse (Medusa's Trap, 1913).....Erik Satie
Quadrille, Valse, Quadrille (1866-1925)

Je Te Veux (1902).....Erik Satie
(1866-1925)

~ Please join us in the lobby for white refreshments ~

BIOGRAPHIES



A native of Wichita, Kansas, **Dr. James Knight** won the Naftzger Piano Award and the Kansas Cultural Trust Award enabling him to study in New York City with Constance Keene. Dr. Knight was a finalist in the Leschetizky Piano Competition and also performed at Steinway Hall in New York City. Dr. Knight is now in his 29th year of teaching at Friends University, where he is an assistant professor of piano. He has also had several prizewinning students in local competitions including the WMMTA piano concerto auditions. Dr. Knight's compositions are published by SMP Press.



Inspired by the music of our time, pianist **Nathanael May** seeks to enlighten audiences with innovative performances, initiatives, and outreach. He was named the 2012 Winner of the American Prize for solo piano performance and enjoys bringing neglected and interesting music to the public sphere. Nathanael is founder of the soundSCAPE Composition And Performance Exchange, a festival that unites young composers and performers every summer in the Swiss Alps. He serves as the Tim & Gail Buchanan endowed chair for the Fine Arts division at Friends University.



Cindy Blasdel received her BM in Piano Performance from Friends University and her MM in Accompanying from Wichita State University. She has travelled internationally as an accompanist. Since coming to Friends, Cindy has taught Music Theory and Aural Skills, private and class piano, vocal jazz and accompanied Singing Quakers, Concert Choir and numerous soloists. She is married to Steve, has 3 wonderful children and 8 fabulous grandchildren.



Joy Lenau holds a Bachelor of Arts in Music from Mary Washington University and a Master of Music from Wichita State University. She has been actively teaching piano and playing collaboratively since 2009. She has called Wichita home for the past 9 years, where she maintains an active private piano studio, teaches class piano at both Friends University and Wichita State University, and plays collaboratively.



Meg Gray is the Associate Professor of Piano Pedagogy at Wichita State University. As well as teaching piano pedagogy and supervising the WSU class piano program, she has presented at various national music conferences, including Music Teachers National Conference. She has performed as a duo pianist for many years, including at the Mu Phi Epsilon International Conference Summer 2023. Gray holds graduate degrees in Piano Pedagogy from the University of Oklahoma.

BIOGRAPHIES



Ryan M. Smith is a Music Theater Student at Friends University and is excited to be a part of this celebration of Erik Satie. Ryan has performed in many productions within the Wichita and El Dorado communities. He has enjoyed discovering the beauty and truly wacky nature of Satie's works and hopes that this music connects with you as much as it has with him. Erik Satie influenced a new generation of composers and his courage to stretch the boundaries of music is still an inspiration to all.



Davis Green is in his third year of pursuing dual Bachelors degrees in Music Education and Music Performance (Vocal) at Friends University. He has performed in several productions with Friends University such as Copland's *The Tender Land* (Martin) and *Catch Me If You Can* (Frank Abagnale Sr.). He hopes to attend graduate school and conduct at the collegiate level in the future. Let all the Glory be to God.



Leigh Barton-Green holds a Foundation Degree in Art & Design, BA (Hons) Graphic Design & Illustration and MA Museum & Heritage Studies. She has worked at numerous galleries and museums in her native home of the United Kingdom including The Harris Museum, World Museum Liverpool, Liverpool Biennial and Garstang Museum of Archeology. Leigh has been the Fine Arts Events Coordinator at Friends University since April 2023, and has enjoyed creating "*Satieday*". Her parents were British army dog handlers, and she is proud to follow in their footsteps today.



Conrad D. Almaton is a good boy.

SATIEDAY VEXATIONS

Thank you to all of the Satieday Vexations pianists!

Dr. James Knight
Joel Knudsen
Cindy Blasdel
Amy Hockett
Rolaine Hetherington
Matthew Meals
Beomseung Seok
Adin Gilmore
Ollie Cockrum
Katy Atwater
Joy Lenau
Dr. Nathanael May
Atticus Christinat
Adam Tillberg

Julie Crawford
Michelle Rautmann
Paul Tyson
Amy Cole
Dr. Nicholas Schroeder
Emaleigh Batson
Gage Terrell
Alexander Miller
Gavin Hawkins
Davis Green
Dr. Rayvon Moore
Michael Jabara
Linda Hiebert
Sylvia Eckes
Michelle Vardaman

Site Managers

Leigh Barton-Green
Adin Gilmore
Dr. Nicholas Schroeder
Dr. James Knight
Ryan Smith

Michelle Rautmann
Augustus May
Dr. Rayvon Moore
Michael Jabara
Robyn Mabe



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