Williams College Department of Music

Co-produced with the Clark

Portraits in Music

Mark Kroll, harpsichord

Harpichord Music of Eighteenth-Century France

CESAR Symposium

François Couperin
(1668-1733)

Quatrième Ordre
La Marche des Gris-vêtu
Les Baccanales
La Pateline
La Réveil-matin

François Couperin
Sixième Ordre
Les Moissonneurs
Les Langeurs-Tendres
La Bersan
Les Baricades Mistérieuses
Les Bergeries
La Commère
Le Moucheron

***intermission***

François Couperin
Huitième Ordre
La Raphaële
Allemande l’Ausoniéne
Passacaille

Jean-Philippe Rameau
(1683-1764)

Les Tendres Plaintes
Les Tourbillons
Les Cyclopes

Claude Balbastre
(1727-1799)

La d’Héricourt
La Lugeac

Special Thanks to Walter Burr for the use of his handmade replica of the 1759 Paris Harpsichord.

Saturday, September 13, 2008
8:00 P.M.

Brooks-Rogers Recital Hall
Williamstown, Massachusetts

Upcoming Events:
See music.williams.edu for full details and to sign up for the weekly e-newsletters.

9/17: MIDWEEKMUSIC, Chapin Hall, 12:15 p.m.
9/19: Avery Sharpe Quintet, Chapin Hall, 8:00 p.m.
9/24: MIDWEEKMUSIC, Chapin Hall, 12:15 p.m.
9/26: Violin Master Class with Ani Kavafian, Brooks-Rogers Recital Hall, 4:15 p.m.
9/26: Piano Master Class with Mihae Lee, Chapin Hall (seating onstage), 4:15 p.m.
9/26: Ani Kavafian, violin and Mihae Lee, piano, Brooks-Rogers Recital Hall, 8:00 p.m.
10/1: MIDWEEKMUSIC, Chapin Hall, 12:15 p.m.
10/2: Screening of “Straight, No Chaser” in conjunction with Freddie Bryant Quartet, Brooks-Rogers Recital Hall, 4:15 p.m.
10/4: Freddie Bryant Quartet featuring Ben Riley, Brooks-Rogers Recital Hall, 8:00 p.m.
Pre-concert talk, Brooks-Rogers, 7:15 p.m.
10/8: MIDWEEKMUSIC, Chapin Hall, 12:15 p.m.

Please turn off or mute cell phones.
No photography or recording is permitted.
Mark Kroll has been acclaimed as one of the world’s leading harpsichordists and fortepianists. During a career spanning four decades, he has performed throughout North and South America, Europe and the Middle East, winning critical praise for his expressive playing and virtuosity.

His concert tours have included appearances as the official guest of the city of Barcelona, as featured soloist in Germany’s Regensburg Early Music Festival, France’s Festival Ambronay, Lisbon’s Gulbenkian Foundation, Rome’s Associazione Musicale Romana, Poland’s Dni Bachowski, Slovenijas’s Radovljica Festival and the Aston Magna, Saratoga and Mostly Mozart Festivals in the United States. He has been the first American harpsichordist to appear in numerous countries, including recent concerts in Abu Dhabi and Dubai of the United Arab Emirates. Equally active in the solo, chamber music and concerto repertoire, Kroll collaborates frequently with noted musicians and ensembles, and has appeared as concerto soloist with some of the world’s major orchestras, including the Philadelphia Orchestra, the Boston Symphony, the Montreal Symphony, the Belgrade Chamber Orchestra and I Solisti di Zagreb. He has served as the harpsichordist for the Boston Symphony since 1979.

Mark Kroll’s extensive list of recordings includes solo harpsichord works of J.S. Bach, Handel, D. Scarlatti, F. Couperin, D. Scarlatti, and B. Balbastre; the complete sonatas for violin and harpsichord and for flute and harpsichord of J.S. Bach; violin sonatas of C.P.E. Bach and S. LeDuc; Schubert’s three Sonatinas for fortepiano and violin; a world-premiere recording of Mozart’s "Haffner" and "Linz" symphonies as transcribed by J. N. Hummel for fortepiano and instruments; Biber’s Sonatas for violin and harpsichord; and contemporary American harpsichord music. He has made numerous radio and TV appearances, including Radio Nacional España, Radio Yugoslavia, Radio Catalunya, National Public Radio, Westdeutscher Rundfunk Köln, Mitteldeutscher Rundfunk, Bayerische Rundfunk, France Musique, the B.B.C., the C.B.C., and Radio Smithsonian.

A noted authority on performance practice and period instruments, Kroll has contributed to scholarly publications and written articles on a wide range of topics for general readership magazines and journals. These include chapters on French harpsichord music; 17th-century performance practice; the piano techniques of Beethoven and his contemporaries; and two editions of Hummel’s transcriptions of opera overtures and Mozart’s symphonies. He also served as the music critic for WBUR-FM for two years. Kroll has recently published three books: Playing the Harpsichord Expressively (Scarecrow Press), The Beethoven Violin Sonatas (co-edited with Lewis Lockwood, University of Illinois Press), and Johann Nepomuk Hummel: A Musician and His World (Scarecrow Press).

Kroll is also a proponent of the harpsichord music of the 20th and 21st centuries. He has premiered and commissioned many new works, and his two CDs of this repertoire have been critically acclaimed. As a conductor, he has directed both orchestral and vocal ensembles, and served as the Artistic Director of Opera New England.

Mr. Kroll’s honors include a Senior Fulbright Award from the Council for International Exchange of Scholars, a Solo Recitalist Grant from the NEA, an NEH Fellowship, Whiting and Bogliasco Fellowships, a Stipendium from the City of Weimar, Germany, and grants from the DAAD, IREX, Aaron Copland Fund, Arts International, and the Martha Baird Rockefeller Fund. A dedicated educator, in 1989 Mr. Kroll served as Fulbright Professor and Artist-in-Residence in Yugoslavia, and later returned for recitals in Ljubljana, Zagreb, Belgrade and Zadar. In 1991 he was a visiting lecturer at the University of Padua, Italy and in 1993 he served as guest Professor at the Conservatory of Music in Würzburg, Germany. He has conducted master classes in the music academies of Warsaw, Krakow and Ljubljana and the Athens Conservatory in Greece. Mr. Kroll is Professor Emeritus at Boston University, where he served for 23 years as Professor and Chair of the Department of Historical Performance. He is currently Visiting Professor at Northeastern University.