

Clarinet Fusion in Concert

Harold Wright - Clarinet, Piano

Mr. Wright (Hal), Professor Emeritus, earned his Doctorate in Music in 1955 from Columbia University, and later served as head of the Music Department at Northern Michigan University where, in 1993, he received a second Doctoral Degree. He started on piano in grade school, picked up clarinet in 7th grade (following in his father's footsteps as a clarinetist) and, dissatisfied with those limits, followed up learning flute, trumpet, and sax. He played solo clarinet with the 5th Marine Division Band from 1942-1946. Hal is well known musically around the Bay Area as a soloist and chamber musician on clarinet, piano. He is a long-standing member of the Walnut Creek Concert Band, as well as stints with the Contra Costa Chamber Orchestra, Diablo Symphony, Diablo Light Opera Company, and The Performing Arts Society. Hal celebrated his 95th birthday this past spring.



• Clarinet Fusion •

A poster for a concert. The background is dark with a large, vibrant firework exploding in shades of red, orange, and yellow. A blue clarinet is positioned vertically, with the firework's trail appearing to emerge from its top. The text 'SUMMER SPARKLERS' is written in large, bold, yellow letters with a black outline. Below it, the time '7:15PM' and the date 'Thursday, July 7, 2011' are written in white. At the bottom, the location 'The Waterford at Rossmoor' is written in white.

**SUMMER
SPARKLERS**

7:15PM
Thursday, July 7, 2011
The Waterford at Rossmoor

Clarinet Fusion (kler-ə-'net 'fyü-zhən) *n.* **1.** The process of the sound of single-reed, tubular woodwind instruments merging diverse, distinct, or separate elements into a unified whole.

Program

1. Rondo Presto Joseph Haydn
2. Sentimental Journey Green/Brown & Homer
3. Bill Bailey Hughie Cannon
4. Lettre A Élise (Für Elise) Ludwig van Beethoven
5. Polacca Ermanno Picchi
Tom Berkelman clarinet, Joan Carter bass clarinet, Hal Wright piano
6. Clair de Lune Claude Debussy
Hal Wright piano
7. They Didn't Believe Me Jerome Kern
8. Sarabande and Allegro George F. Handel
9. Blue Twilight Harold L. Walters
10. Liberty Bell March John Philip Sousa
11. Relax! (Rumba) Paul Yoder
12. Tico Tico Zequinha Abreu
13. Summertime George Gershwin
14. Perpetuum Mobile Johann Strauss II
15. Stars and Stripes John Philip Sousa



Personnel

Tom Berkelman - Bb Clarinet, A Clarinet, Eb Clarinet, Bass Clarinet

Mr. Berkelman jumped into the world of music, as many students do, playing clarinet in grade school. Today he plays a number of instruments besides the Bb clarinet and collects some of the more obscure and extreme examples of the reed family including the contrabass sarrusophone and piccolo clarinet. When not playing music, Tom works in the biotech industry. He also plays his various clarinet instruments with the Walnut Creek Concert Band, the Diablo Valley College Symphonic Band and the Quintaire Woodwind Quintet.

Joan Carter - Clarinet, Bass Clarinet

Ms. Carter began making music on alto sax in 8th grade but soon added clarinet and the occasional flute. In college she played clarinet exclusively, but followed with a 30-year sabbatical from playing while a teaching career took over. Joan picked up playing music again when a music teacher (at the school where she taught) handed her a clarinet saying she needed her to play in the alumni group the following week—which she did. Since then Joan has added bass clarinet and Eb clarinet to her clarinet instrument performing repertoire. Joan's other musical forays include playing with the Contra Costa Wind Symphony and East Bay Symphonic Band.

George March - Clarinet

Mr. March was given his first clarinet at the age of 9. He played bass clarinet for five years prior to college, and plays nearly all of the instruments of the saxophone family. George has been a full-time stay-at-home-dad since 1992; his part-time occupations though have included Scout leader, layout and print editor, drafting, and graphic designer. His musical background includes pit orchestras with several regional theater groups (currently Guys & Dolls with Starstruck Theater in Fremont). He also plays with the Ohlone College Community Band, the California Repercussions Marching Band, and the Danville Community Band for which he is also the Business Manager.

Karyn Weber - Bass Clarinet, Alto Clarinet

Ms. Weber is the manager of Clarinet Fusion. She began playing clarinet in Junior High School, switched to bass clarinet in High School (where she was a Bank of America Achievement Award winner for Music) and later added alto clarinet to her repertoire. Over the years Karyn has played for numerous honor bands including the All-Western States Intercollegiate Honor Band. In addition to Clarinet Fusion, Karyn plays alto clarinet with the Walnut Creek Concert Band and Contra Costa Wind Symphony, and bass clarinet with the Danville Community Band.