



**Claire Wachter** joined the distinguished roster of International Steinway Artists in June 2011. Wachter has appeared in solo, chamber and concerto concerts throughout the United States and in Austria, Italy, Taiwan, Japan, Canada, Singapore and China. Recent performances include concertos for two pianos with Steinway Artist Dean Kramer and the Eugene Symphony Orchestra and Oregon Mozart Players. Reviews include “..... charismatic performers... they perfectly captured the playfulness, passion, sensitivity and, above all, the joyfulness that this concerto calls for...” And “... This concerto is a tour de force of teamwork..... a formidable feat, which they made look effortless.” Wachter and Kramer have performed two piano recitals in the United States and Finland, as well as Taiwan’s National Recital Hall (2007) and the China’s Qingdao Grand Hall (2011).

Wachter has performed with the Oregon Bach Festival, the Oregon Festival of American Music, the Utah Music Festival, the Rome Festival (Italy) and the Russian River Chamber Music Festival (California). In the Northwest, she has appeared with the Eugene Symphony, the Oregon Symphony, the Oregon Mozart Players, and the DeRosa Chamber Players of Portland.

Wachter has been a collaborative artist in chamber music concerts with members of the New York Philharmonic, the Los Angeles Philharmonic, the Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra, and the Chicago, Philadelphia, Oregon, and Pittsburgh Symphonies.

Wachter has been an invited lecturer and has given master classes at Queen’s University in Canada, Doshisha University in Japan, Fu-Jen Catholic University in Taiwan, the Peabody Conservatory of Music, the University of Louisiana at Lafayette, East Tennessee State University, Hood College and Towson State University in Maryland. She was an invited presenter for the American Music/American Women conference in Colorado (1995), the Music Teachers National Association conferences in Dallas (1997), Kansas City, MO (2004), Toronto, Canada with co-presenter Dean Kramer (2007) and an invited panelist for the National Group Piano and Piano Pedagogy Conference at the University of Oklahoma (2008). She is an invited lecturer for MTNA 2012 in New York City.

For the World Piano Pedagogy Conference Wachter has chaired The Committee on the Future of Piano Pedagogy (2002, 2004) and presented a lecture-recital (2005). In 2004 Wachter was invited to be one of three national MTNA piano judges for the Baldwin and Yamaha piano competitions. Wachter was a member of the summer piano faculty of the International Institute for Young Musicians (IIYM) at the University of Kansas (2005-2008) and was honored by IIYM’s Working Partnership Award (2005).

As an author, Wachter’s articles have appeared in numerous magazines, including *Piano and Keyboard*, *Keyboard Companion*, *Piano Life*, *The Oregon Musician*, *The e-Oregon Musician*, and *The Piano Quarterly*.

Wachter completed degrees from Baltimore’s Peabody Conservatory of Music and The University of Texas at Austin. Her teachers include John Perry and Julio Esteban. In Europe Wachter studied with Carlo Zecchi (Austria) and Rosa Sabater (Spain).

Wachter has held faculty positions at the University of Texas in Austin (collaborative piano) and the University of the Pacific in California (piano performance). Presently, she is an Associate Professor of Piano and Piano Pedagogy and former chair of the piano department at the University of Oregon. Her students have been prizewinners in local, regional and national competitions.

# GEORGE AND THOSE JAZZY FRENCHMEN!

featuring

**Dean Kramer & Claire Wachter, pianists**

Tower Theatre, Bend | Thurs., April 19, 2012, 7:00 p.m.

<b>Sonata in C</b>	Francis Poulenc
<i>Prelude</i>	(1899–1963)
<i>Rustique</i>	
<i>Final</i>	
<b>“Mother Goose” Suite</b>	Maurice Ravel
<i>Pavane of the Sleeping Beauty in the Forest</i>	(1875–1937)
<i>Tom Thumb</i>	
<i>Little Plain Jane, Empress of the Pagodes</i>	
<i>Conversations of Beauty and the Beast</i>	
<i>The Enchanted Garden</i>	
<b>Scaramouche</b>	Darius Milhaud
<i>Vif</i>	(1892–1974)
<i>Modere</i>	
<i>Brazileira</i>	
<b>Porgy and Bess Fantasy for Two Pianos</b>	George Gershwin
<i>Introduction</i>	(1898–1937)
<i>My Man's Gone Now</i>	arr. P. Grainger
<i>It Ain't Necessarily So</i>	
<i>Clara, Don't You Be Down-Hearted</i>	
<i>Strawberry Call</i>	
<i>Summertime</i>	
<i>Oh, I Can't Sit Down</i>	
<i>Bess You Is My Woman Now</i>	
<i>I Got Plenty O'Nuttin'</i>	
<i>Oh Lawd, I'm On My Way</i>	

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If you are in the company of a small child or someone who may inadvertently cause distractions, kindly sit near a rear exit and be prepared to leave in a timely fashion. Please respect our artists and your fellow concert patrons. House management reserves the right to request exiting the hall when appropriate.

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Steinway Artist **Dean Kramer**'s career as recitalist and concerto soloist has taken him to all parts of the world, including Poland, Hungary, Romania, Finland, France, China, Singapore, Taiwan, Japan, Malta, and Egypt. In the United States he has appeared with the Oregon, Cincinnati, Pittsburgh, Miami, North Carolina, Eugene, and Boise symphonies. His concerto appearances include collaborations with the acclaimed American conductor Marin Alsop in works such as the Samuel Barber Piano Concerto and Leonard Bernstein's *The Age of Anxiety*. He has been featured as soloist with the renowned conductor Helmuth Rilling and the Oregon Bach Festival Orchestra. During the 2011-2012 season Kramer performed three Mozart concertos with the Oregon Mozart Players.

A prizewinner at the International Chopin Competition in Warsaw, Poland, Kramer also won first prize in the first American Chopin Competition in Miami, Florida; first prize in the American Music Scholarship Competition in Cincinnati, Ohio; first prize in the Kosciuszko Competition in New York, New York; and laureate honors in the Three Rivers Competition in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. The Banff Centre for the Arts in Alberta, Canada awarded Kramer the prize for outstanding chamber music performances. Other honors are from The United States Information Agency, which selected Kramer to represent his country internationally as an Artistic Ambassador.

Kramer has had the privilege of playing for such legendary pianists such as Arthur Schnitger (Alice Tully Hall, New York City) and Gina Bachauer (Duke University) and was one of the few pianists to have received lessons from the great Vladimir Horowitz (Mannes School of Music, New York City).

As chamber musician, Kramer has appeared with well-known musicians such as the Vermeer Quartet, the Broyhill Chamber Ensemble and the Russian River Chamber Players. He has performed chamber music with members of the San Francisco Symphony, the Los Angeles Philharmonic, and the Orpheus Chamber Orchestra of New York. Kramer has performed with such well-respected artists as violinist Joseph Genualdi from the Marlboro Music Festival and cellist James Kreger of the Juilliard School.

In 2010 Kramer was the convention artist for the Oregon Music Teachers Association Conference. He has been an invited presenter for the Music Teachers National Association conferences in Seattle (2005), and Toronto, Canada (2007) and New York City (2012). He received standing ovations for his lectures at The World Piano Pedagogy Conference (2004, 2005). Kramer has held performance and lecture residencies at the University of Georgia at Athens and The 5th Singapore Piano Pedagogy Symposium. He has presented master classes in Taiwan, Canada, France, Finland, Poland, China, Singapore and Japan.

Kramer is a native Philadelphian, and holds degrees from the Oberlin Conservatory of Music, where he studied with Naumberg winner Joseph Schwartz and the University of Texas at Austin, studying with the internationally recognized pianist and teacher John Perry. Additional studies were with Adele Marcus at The Juilliard School of Music in New York.

Kramer is chair of the piano faculty at the University of Oregon where he teaches award-winning students.