



SCHOOL OF MUSIC

TEXAS TECH

J.T. & Margaret Talkington College of Visual & Performing Arts



CLARINET IN THE TWENTIETH CENTURY,
A PERIOD OF CREATIVITY AND LANGUAGE
DIVERSITY

Jose Franch Ballester, *clarinet*

Daniel del Pino, *piano*

Sunday, February 8th, 2026 | 2:00 pm
Hemmler Recital Hall

PROGRAM

- Sonata for clarinet and piano, FP184 F. Poulenc
(1899-1963)
- I. Allegro Tristamente (Allegretto-Très Calme-Tempo Allegretto)
 - II. Romanza (Très calme)
 - III. Allegro con fuoco (Très animé)
- Première Rhapsodie, for clarinet and piano C. Debussy
(1862-1918)
- Hommage to M. de Falla, for solo clarinet B. Kovács
(1937-2021)
- Sonata for clarinet and piano L. Bernstein
(1918-1990)
- I. Grazioso
 - II. Andantino-Vivace e leggiero
- Five fragments, for clarinet and piano J. Widmann
(b. 1973)
- I. Aussert langsam
 - II. Presto possibile
 - III. Sehr langsam, frei
 - IV. Energiegeladen, sehr schnell
 - V.
- Sonatina for clarinet and piano J. Horowitz
(1926-2022)
- I. Allegro calmato
 - II. Lento, quasi andante
 - III. Con brio

ABOUT THE ARTIST



The multi-award-winning Spanish clarinetist Jose Franch-Ballester is recognized as one of the leading classical soloists, chamber musicians, and music educators of his generation. Acclaimed for his “technical wizardry and tireless enthusiasm” (The New York Times), he has forged an international career marked by artistic excellence and versatility.

A recipient of the prestigious Avery Fisher Career Grant and winner of both Young Concert Artists and Astral Artists auditions, Franch-Ballester has appeared as a soloist with orchestras including the Orchestra of St. Luke's, BBC Concert Orchestra, Louisville Orchestra, London Sinfonia, Orquesta de Radio Televisión Española, Orquesta Nacional de México, and Orquesta de Valencia, among many others. He made his New York recital debut at the 92nd Street Y and has since performed widely throughout Europe, Asia, the Americas, and Australia.

An active and committed chamber musician, he performs regularly with the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center and serves as principal clarinet of the Santa Barbara-based Camerata Pacifica. He has collaborated with distinguished ensembles including the Pacifica, Dover, Miró, American, St. Lawrence, Jupiter, and Modigliani String Quartets.

A passionate advocate for new music, Franch-Ballester has played a significant role in expanding the clarinet repertoire, commissioning and premiering works by composers such as Jake Heggie, Stephen Chatman, Oscar Navarro, Dorothy Chang, Paul Schoenfield, Clarice Assad, William Bolcom, George Tsontakis, and Huang Ruo.

Equally dedicated to teaching, Franch-Ballester has served since 2017 as Associate Professor of Clarinet and Chamber Music at the University of British Columbia in Vancouver, Canada, and is a frequent guest artist at institutions worldwide.

His recordings appear on Deutsche Grammophon, Warner Music, Harmonia Mundi, and Itinerant Classics. Born in Moncofa, Spain, he studied at the Curtis Institute of Music and is a Backun Artist, performing on CG Carbon Clarinets.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Symphonic Wind Ensemble

2:00 PM, Sunday, February 9
Hemmle Recital Hall

Douglas Lindsey and Kristy Mezines Guest Artist Trumpet Recital

8:00 PM, Monday, February 16
Hemmle Recital Hall

Kenneth Thomkins Guest Artist Trombone Recital

8:00 PM, Monday, February 16
Kent R. Hance Chapel