CAU’s Department of Music To Stage Bicentennial Concert Celebration

March 21

A Tribute to Frederic Chopin (1810-1849) and Robert Schumann (1810-1849)

ATLANTA (March 11, 2010)—Clark Atlanta University’s Department of Music will stage a piano concert celebrating the bicentennial of the births of Frederic Chopin and Robert Schumann on March 21 at 4 p.m. in the sanctuary of the Park Street Music and Art Complex.

CAU faculty member and pianist Mark Boozer will perform the free concert. A pre-concert lecture by David Gable, assistant professor of music at CAU, will take place at 3:30 p.m.

The complex is located at 793 Park Street, S.W., at the Lee Street exit of I-20.

Clark Atlanta University President Carlton E. Brown said, “Our Department of Music is one of the university’s gems, and we are proud of the dedication from such a stellar faculty. Professors Boozer and Gable are talented professionals in their own right, who have committed to helping to shape the futures of our student-musicians and performers.”

Mark Boozer, pianist, has received acclaim for his sensitivity, passion and authority as a performer, his interpretations and advocacy of the music of William Grant Still, and his performances of works by composers from the African Diaspora, as well as his mastery of standard repertoire.

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His commitment to artistic excellence has resulted in coast-to-coast performances in the United States, numerous concert premieres, and performances at the international level. These include the William Grant Still International Conference at the University of Northern Arizona, the historic international conference on African pianism at the University of Pittsburgh, the 2001 American premiere of Gyimah Labi’s (Ghana) *Symphony Concertante: Baptism By Fire* for 3 Pianos and Orchestra with members of the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra, and a major recital at the International Festival and Symposium on Composition in Africa and the Diaspora at the University of Cambridge, England. His CD recording, *William Grant Still Piano Music*, released internationally in 2005 on the prestigious Naxos label, has been heard around the globe in more than 60 countries. Radio broadcasts of his performances have aired in Australia, Canada, England and the United States.

Further credits include broadcasts on National Public Radio’s *Performance Today*, performances in Atlanta’s Fox Theatre, Charleston, South Carolina’s Dock Street Theater, San Francisco’s City Hall, and his serving as guest artist for the DeBose National Piano Competition in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. He has also enjoyed productive relationships with numerous living composers and successful collaborations with outstanding artists like William Warfield, the late legendary baritone.

Boozer began piano studies at an early age with Ruth Young Wilson and Ida Quash Fortune in Bowling Green, Virginia. He later received the Bachelor of Music degree in Piano Performance, magna cum laude, from Ball State University in Indiana, and the Master of Music Degree in both Piano Performance and Piano Pedagogy from Northwestern University in Illinois.

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His professional teachers and coaches have included Jean Charles Kohler at Ball State, John Browning, Gui Mombaerts, and Robert Weirich at Northwestern, and additional private study with Michel Block at Indiana University. He is an Associate Professor in the Music Department.

David Gable, Assistant Professor of Music, is a music theorist and historian specializing in the areas of 19th century Italian opera and post-war European music. His most recent publication is *Variations on the Canon: Essays on Music from Bach to Boulez* (University of Rochester Press, 2009), of which he is a co-editor and to which he contributed an essay placing the music of Pierre Boulez in the context of the French modernist tradition in general and Impressionist painting in particular, “Words for the Surface: Boulez, Stockhausen, and ‘Allover’ Painting.”

Dr. Gable did graduate work in Music Theory at SUNY Stony Brook, completing the M.A. and Ph.D. in Music History at The University of Chicago, where he wrote a dissertation on the operas of Giuseppe Verdi, under Charles Rosen & Robert P. Morgan as a Harper Fellow. He is co-editor of *Alban Berg: Analytical & Historical Perspectives* (Oxford University Press) and *A Life for New Music: Selected Papers of Paul Fromm* (Harvard University Press) and has also contributed various articles on the music of Verdi and Boulez.

Formed in 1988 by the consolidation of two historic institutions, Atlanta University (1865) and Clark College (1869), Clark Atlanta University is the largest of the United Negro College Fund institutions with an enrollment of nearly 4,000 students. Clark Atlanta University is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097: Telephone 404-679-4501) to award the Bachelor’s, Master’s, Specialist and Doctor’s degrees. The Carnegie Classification lists CAU as a Research University – High Research Activity. CAU is listed as one of the best southeastern colleges by *The Princeton Review* and has been selected to the *Washington Monthly*’s 2008 list of best colleges and universities. National business and consumer publications rank Clark Atlanta high among the best buys in American higher ed.

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