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## For Immediate Release

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Oct. 10, 1995

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

BLOOMINGTON, Ill.-- Chicago Symphony Orchestra clarinetists John Bruce Yeh and J. Lawrie Bloom will perform Sunday, Oct. 15 at 7:30 p.m. in Westbrook Auditorium of Illinois Wesleyan University's Presser Hall. The clarinetists also will teach a master class Monday, Oct. 16 from 10 a.m.-12 p.m., in Westbrook Auditorium.

*composite  
Locals*

IWU Assistant Professor of Clarinet/Music Education Roger Garrett and Illinois State University music faculty member Aris Chavez also will be featured in the concert.

The performance will showcase two pieces for three basset horns, played by Yeh, Lawrie, and Garrett. A basset horn is an instrument between a clarinet and bass clarinet, used long before the bass clarinet was developed, and is a rare instrument enjoying a resurgence.

According to Garrett, he organized the concert to expose audiences to the unique instrument.

"[Basset horns] have kind of an unfocused, warm, fuzzy sound," Garrett said.

Chavez will join the other three artists on two pieces for four clarinets. Yeh and Bloom will perform two other pieces together.

Yeh joined the Chicago Symphony Orchestra in 1977, at age 19.

"That's basically unheard of," Garrett said. "He's a genius."

A graduate of the Juilliard School of Music, Yeh was honored with a Grammy in 1986 for "Best New Classical Artist" from the National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences. Yeh is director of the Grammy Award-winning chamber ensemble, Chicago Pro Musica, and a founding member of the Chicago Symphony Winds.

Bloom joined the Chicago Symphony Orchestra in 1980, after stints with the Phoenix, Vancouver, and Cincinnati Symphonies, among others.

In January of 1995, Bloom performed the Ian Krouse Concerto for Bass Clarinet and Large Orchestra with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, becoming the first performer to present a bass clarinet concerto with any major orchestra in the U.S., according to material furnished by Bloom.

"He [Bloom] is probably the best bass clarinet player in the world," Garrett said.

Bloom and Yeh, and their Chicago Symphony Winds colleagues, were nominated for a Grammy Award for their CBS Masterworks album "Mozart Music for Bass Horns."

The Chicago Symphony Orchestra was founded in 1891, under the direction of Theodore Thomas. In 1991, Daniel Barenboim became the Orchestra's ninth music director. Since 1916, the Orchestra has made more than 600 recordings and earned 53 Grammy Awards.

#### Concert Program

The concert includes these works:

- Divertimento No. 2 for Three Bass Horns  
--Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart
- Trio for Bass Horns, No. 1-6--Anton Stadler
- Zwölf Variationen for Clarinets and Bass Clarinet--Alfred Uhl
- Sonata for Two Clarinets--Francis Poulenc
- Concertpiece No. 1, Op. 113 for Clarinet, Bass Horn, and Piano  
--Felix Mendelssohn

#### Master Class

In addition to performing, Yeh and Bloom will conduct a master class for four IWU and ISU students.

Yeh and Bloom teach at DePaul University and Northwestern University, respectively, so the classes in Westbrook Auditorium will be nothing new for them, Garrett said.

The four students will prepare pieces to perform for the musicians, and then Yeh and Bloom will take turns instructing.

IWU students April Lord, a senior music education major from Hawthorn Woods, Ill., and Gina Magnetta, a junior music education major from Elmhurst, Ill., will participate in the master class.

The master class is free and open to the public. Garrett encourages the public to attend.

"This is a chance for people to come and see how we learn," Garrett said.

Lord, who has prepared works by Bach and Brahms for the master class, said she was looking forward to playing for Yeh and Bloom.

"They're the best of the best," Lord said. "It's great experience to have them critique my work. I expect to learn a lot."