

**Mark Breeden** is a candidate for the Doctorate of Musical Arts at the Eastman School of Music in Rochester, New York, and is a student of Thomas Schumacher. In addition to studying and performing the solo piano repertoire, he is also an active vocal accompanist. While at Eastman, Mr. Breeden served as a vocal coach for the Eastman Opera Theatre program for seven years, preparing, coaching, and performing over twenty operas. He has collaborated with vocal artists Mira Zakai, Haken Hagegard, Rita Shane, Carol Webber, Constance Haas, as well as with opera and accompanying professors Jean Barr, Russell Miller, and Benton Hess. In 2004, 2005, and 2007, Mr. Breeden was a prizewinner at the Kneisel Vocal Competition in the collaborative piano category. He appears on the 2008 Albany Records recording of landmark American composer Lee Hoiby's *Bon Appétit!*, and prepared the singers for the recording of *This is the Rill Speaking* that appears on the same album. In preparation for these recordings, Mr. Breeden collaborated closely with Hoiby.

Mark has been a frequent guest artist on Chicago's *Arts at Large* concert series and has performed numerous solo recitals throughout the San Francisco Bay and Greater Rochester areas. He is also a clarinetist, having held the principal position in the Master Sinfonia Chamber Orchestra and the assistant principal position in the Redwood Symphony. Both orchestras have featured Mark as guest soloist in performances of Beethoven's Piano Concerto No. 1. Renowned Bay Area orchestra *Symphony Parnassus* will feature Mr. Breeden performing the Brahms D Minor piano concerto during their 2009-2010 season.

In addition to his performing credits, Mr. Breeden is an experienced teacher of both piano and clarinet. At Eastman, Mark served as Studio Assistant, teaching undergraduate students in the studio of Thomas Schumacher. While on the faculty of the Hochstein School of Music in Rochester, NY, Mr. Breeden was also a frequent adjudicator for the school's annual scholarship competition. He is currently a member of the clarinet and piano faculty at the Crestmont Conservatory of Music in San Mateo, CA.