

University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire
Department of Music and Theatre Arts

presents the

SYMPHONY BAND
PHILLIP OSTRANDER, CONDUCTOR

MATTHEW GULLICKSON, STUDENT CONDUCTOR
2008 CONDUCTING COMPETITION WINNER

RACHEL KELM, CLARINET SOLOIST
2008 SYMPHONY BAND CONCERTO COMPETITION WINNER



Sunday, April 27, 2008
5:00 p.m.
Gantner Concert Hall
Haas Fine Arts Center



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Excellence. Our Measure, Our Motto, Our Goal.

Program

BaliMichael Colgrass
(b. 1932)

Amazing Grace.....Frank Ticheli
(b. 1958)

Matthew Gullickson, Winner 2008
Symphony Band Student Conducting Competition

Concerto No. 2 for Clarinet Carl Maria Von Weber
(1786-1826)

III Rondo arr. Jeff Girard

Rachel Kelm, Winner 2008
Symphony Band Student Concerto Competition

Gnomon Thomas Duffy
(b. 1955)

Brief Intermission

Urban SambaMichael Cunningham*
(b. 1937)

California SuiteJohn Gibson
(b. 1951)

III Heritage Grove

Grand Serenade for an Awful Lot of P.D.Q. Bach
Winds and Percussion (1807-1742)

I Grand Entrance

III Simply Grand Minuet

IV Rondo Mucho Grando

* *UW-Eau Claire Emeritus Professor of Music*

Program Notes and Biographies

Bali (2005) for wind ensemble was inspired by my two summers living in Ubud, the arts-and-crafts center of Bali. The very first sound I heard every morning was a gamelan instrument playing the five-note scale unique to that region of the island. The Balinese are warm, playful, and artistic-minded people, all of whom play instruments and dance, as well as work in the rice fields. Creativity is such a basic part of their life that they don't even have a word for it, because it is simply taken for granted as the basis for a spiritual life. This work offers an example of their indomitable spirit. It is divided into three main parts; the bright dance rhythms of the gamelan orchestra are the outer sections, and the middle section is the slow lament for the dead, introduced by an explosion representing the 2002 terrorist bombing of the nightclub in the island's capital, Denpasar. The Balinese have a unique way of dealing with tragedy; they build a spiritual monument on the spot where the event took place as an offering to the gods. Following requiem-like music we hear a gradual build-up of bright sounds representing the sun reflecting off of the icon built to the memory of the dead, which then leads to a return of the dance. (*Colgrass*)

Of his piece Frank Ticheli writes: "I wanted my setting of **Amazing Grace** (1994) to reflect the powerful simplicity of the words and melody – to be sincere, to be direct, to be honest – and not through the use of novel harmonies and clever tricks, but by traveling traditional paths in search of truth and authenticity. I believe that music has the power to take us to a place that words alone cannot. And so my own feelings about *Amazing Grace* reside in this setting itself. The harmony, texture, orchestration, and form are inseparable, intertwined so as to be perceived as a single expressive entity. The spiritual "Amazing Grace" was written by John Newton (1725-1807), a slaveship captain who, after years of transporting slaves across the Atlantic Ocean to the New World, suddenly saw through divine grace the evilness of his acts. *Amazing Grace* has since grown to become one of the most beloved of all American spirituals. (*Ticheli*)

Carl Maria von Weber, the great German romantic composer, was, after Mozart, the first to write distinguished works for the solo clarinet. All of these works were composed for the great clarinetist Heinrich Baermann.

The **Clarinet Concerto No. 2** in E Flat Op. 74 is a lively and majestic piece, which truly explores the sonorities and technical capabilities of the instrument. The Rondo trades a rhythmic and syncopated melody with sections of elegant reflection that converse with the accompanying ensemble. It also demands the performer to negotiate difficult fingerings and articulation combinations. (*uncredited*)

Gnomon (1998) is the Greek word for the pointer of a sundial, and the Kentucky Vietnam Veterans Memorial bears that name with good reason. Designed by Helm Roberts, a Lexington, Kentucky architect and veteran, the monument pays tribute to each and every Kentuckian killed in the Vietnam War. Engraved on the surface of the 215-ton blue-gray granite plaza are the names of the 1074 Kentuckians killed and 20 Kentuckians missing in action in Vietnam – casualties incurred from 1962 through the 1975 evacuations of Saigon. Towering above the plaza and visible for some great distance around the memorial is the stainless steel gnomon, standing 14.62 feet above the surface of the plaza with a length of 24.72 feet. The angle of the gnomon is equal to 38° 19' 25" from horizontal and points to the true North Pole and Polaris, the North Star. On the plaza the name of each deceased Kentuckian is located such that the shadow of the gnomon touches it on the actual anniversary of his death. The names of 20 men still listed as MIA or POW are located in front of the gnomon where the shadow never falls, paying special tribute to their personal agony and symbolizing continued vigil for their return. (*Duffy*)

The **Urban Samba** is a salute to the work of Bernie Wayne, a nationally successful popular songwriter beginning in the 1940s and extending through the 1970s. Though he is generally unknown, a few of his songs became mid-century pop-

song classics. He also achieved a number of instrumentals in the early 1950s that "made the charts." While I was in high school, I was so impressed with his instrumental works that I created a piece that was similar. *Urban Samba* is a sort of reconstruction since my original score had been lost over time. It was in the 1980s that I actually wrote an admiring letter to Wayne, and his reaction was to graciously send me a cassette recording containing the very pieces I had always admired. (Cunningham)

California Suite: Heritage Grove presents a musical snapshot of the state including the redwoods of Heritage Grove. The piece was commissioned by Jack Delaney for the Interlochen Center for the Arts in the summer of 2003. John Gibson holds degrees from Texas Tech and the University of North Texas. He has taught in the Amarillo public schools and at UNT, the University of Arizona, McMurry University and SMU. He has received commissions from symphony orchestras, university bands and percussion ensembles, the Texas Music Educators' Association, the Revelli Foundation for Bands of America, numerous high school and junior high school bands, churches and choral groups. He currently serves as resident composer for the Dallas Wind Symphony.

Grand Serenade for an Awful Lot of Winds and Percussion was composed on commission from Prince Fred of Wein-am-Rhein, for some sort of outdoor occasion. P.D.Q. Bach had originally wanted to write a really big work of thirty-five or forty minutes duration, but he agreed to make it only a third as long when Prince Fred offered to triple the fee. Soon after it was played, a member of the Prince's household used the pages of the score to wrap six large sausages, which were sent to Paris to be presented as a gift to Benjamin Franklin, from whom the Prince was anxious to obtain the specifications for building a glass harmonica, which Franklin had recently perfected. Eventually, the manuscript made its way to an attic in Boston, where Peter Schickele found it among the belongings of an eighteenth century Tory, in a box marked

"Seditious Material." Some adjustments have been made to the arrangement for the lack of a dill piccolo, which is now obsolete and little known. (*Theodore Presser Co.*)

Matt Gullickson is a native of Mankato, Minnesota and graduate of Mankato West High School. He is a junior music education major and studies percussion with Jeff Crowell. This past summer Matt was a member of the world renowned Madison Scouts Drum and Bugle Corps. He is the percussion director and arranger of the Mankato Area 77 Lancers marching band as well as the Menomonie High School marching band and winter drumline. This fall he will be serving the Chippewa Falls High School marching band in a similar capacity. After graduation Matt hopes to start his teaching career or become a military musician.

Rachel Kelm is a freshman Music Performance and Accounting major at the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire and is currently studying clarinet under Dr. Richard Fletcher. In her time at Eau Claire she has participated in Wind Symphony, University Symphony Orchestra, and Clarinet Choir. She is from Owatonna, MN where she studied clarinet under Mrs. Holly Guenther. Rachel enjoys performing both in ensembles and as a soloist and has had the honor of performing as a soloist with the Owatonna High School Concert Band at the 2008 Minnesota Music Educators Association Convention and as an ensemble member with the Minnesota All-State Symphonic Band and Symphony Orchestra. After college she hopes to continue to pursue a career in performance with a symphony orchestra.

Symphony Band Personnel

Flute

*Caitlin Rosborough
Cara Zimmer
Nessa Severson
Caryn Drewiske
Iansa Zaldarriaga
Kim Weiss

Clarinet

*Beth Leska
Rachel Benz
Kristin Freedlund
Chelsea Dresser
Stef Berkopoc
Hannah Farr
David Bashaw
Alana Carrier
Tyler Anderson

Bass Clarinet

Tara Sanderson

Oboe

*Denelle Chapman
Kelsey Seline

Bassoon

*Matt Kruszka

Saxophone

*Ben Kunselman
Corey Cunningham
Michelle Kochan
Phil Nesbit

Tenor Saxophone

Mike Vanderscheuren

Baritone Saxophone

Luke Dallagrana

Trumpet

*Loren Endorf
Josh Dahl
Carl Schroeder
Jason Kubiatawicz
Kayla Theiste
Chris Boyd

Horn

*Rachel Meyer
Amy Schmidt
Sam Emmons
Jeanie Schoenhals
Tony Och

Trombone

* Nicole Brellenthin
Jason Marshall
Will Schwartz
Andy Rosevold
Adam Lowe
Andy Bader

Euphonium

*Rick Slembariski
Bobbi Geissler

Tuba

*Nick Drayton
Joe Lasko
Mike Mitmoen
Garrett Johnson

Percussion

* Mary Imsdahl
Abby Frederick
Tristan Williams
Chris Halbauer
Nick LaMuro
Peter Hanson

Piano

Bobbi Geissler

*Principal player

Administrative

Assistants:

Elizabeth Soules
Jim Skaleski

University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire Wind and Percussion Faculty

Prof. Robert Baca	Trumpet/Director of Jazz Studies
Dr. Jeffery Crowell	Percussion/Percussion Ensemble
Dr. Randal Dickerson	University Band/Marching Band
Dr. Kristine Fletcher	Bassoon
Dr. Richard Fletcher	Clarinet/Saxophone
Dr. Christa Garvey	Oboe
Dr. Richard Mark Heidel	Director of Bands/ Wind Symphony
Dr. Tim Lane	Flute
Dr. Nancy McMillan	Saxophone
Dr. Verle Ormsby, Jr.	French Horn/Horn Ensemble
Dr. Phillip Ostrander	Trombone/Symphony Band/ Trombone Ensemble
Dr. Jerry Young	Tuba/Euphonium/ BASSically BRASS



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