# FORBES CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS JAMES MADISON UNIVERSITY. School of Music

presents

# Colgan High School Wind Symphony & JMU Wind Symphony

Don Magee, Conductor Stephen P. Bolstad, Conductor Amy Birdsong, Conductor

> Wednesday, May 3, 2023 8 pm Concert Hall



There is a 15-minute intermission.

# Program

# **Colgan High School Wind Symphony**

Mercury		Jan Van der Roost (b. 1956)
Shenandoah		Frank Ticheli (b. 1958)
Gershwin!		George Gershwin (1898-1937) arr. Warren Barker
Variants on a Moravian I	Hymn Don Magee, <i>conductor</i>	James Barnes (b. 1949)
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# Intermission

## JMU Wind Symphony

The Wild Goose (2014)

Ryan George (b. 1978)

Amy Birdsong, conductor

Symphonic Dances from "West Side Story" (1967/2008) Leonard Bernstein (1918-1990) trans. Paul Lavender

Wedding Dance

Jacques Press (1903-1985) trans. Herbert Johnston ed. Frederick Fennell

Stephen Bolstad, conductor

# Colgan High School Wind Symphony Personnel

Don Magee, conductor

#### FLUTE/PICCOLO

Layal Abdelsattar Angela Amoako Jenet Jeruel Bagang Deborah Carranza Lindsay Drum Alex Fuhrman Maddy Smith Kaitlyn Sorto Katie Tegtmeyer

#### **OBOE/ENGLISH HORN**

Claire Brown Rebecca Kent Daniel Sturch Cole Trenkelbach

### CLARINET

Zarifa Dobson Alex Lauer Anika Senan Gabrielle Younger

### BASS CLARINET

Isaac Manigault

#### ALTO SAXOPHONE

Aidan Johnson Ethan MacDonald

#### TENOR SAXOPHONE

Everett Woodward

#### BARITONE SAXOPHONE David Teodor

# SYNTHESIZER

Emily Yeh

#### TRUMPET

Macadger Byrne Giro Estrada Derek Fischer Paul Racey Ethan Wildgen Andrea Young

#### HORN

Malika Dobson Lexy Lohfeld Michael Stachour Nichole Stills

#### TROMBONE

Rebecca Acolatse Jalyin Gonzalez Oliver Mose Adam Saunders Jaylinn Vanegas

#### BASS TROMBONE

Matthew Hanshaw Charles Reardon

#### EUPHONIUM

Alex Almeida Vaz Freeman

#### TUBA

Ceci D'Amico Emalyn Kehoe

### PERCUSSION

Michael DiNorma Thomas Fowler Grace Lynam Nathaniel Owusu-Appiah Jackson Ramirez Ella Van Echo Mason Weintz Alec Windmiller Donovan Woodard

## Wind Symphony Personnel Stephen P. Bolstad, conductor Miranda Cook, MM graduate assistant

#### FLUTE/PICCOLO

Ariel Collins – Chesapeake Anna Fenn – Manassas Megumi Kadarusman – Clifton Ethan Linklater – Mechanicsville #Joshua Lockhart – Lincoln Park, MI

#### **OBOE/ENGLISH HORN**

Laura Huggins – Richmond Will Slopnick – Norfolk Mekhi Tyree – Lynchburg

#### BASSOON/CONTRA

\*David Kang – Chantilly \*Tony Russo – Purcellville

#### CLARINET

Blaine Edwards – Stuarts Draft Hunter LaFreniere – Williamsburg #Geneva Maldonado – Tobyhanna, PA \*#Gregorio Paone – Bernalda, Italy Ged Pearson – Seaford, DE Sophie Uy – Annandale

#### BASS CLARINET/CONTRA

Ian Graff – Virginia Beach Blaine Edwards – Stuarts Draft

#### ALTO SAXOPHONE

\*Haven Kahn – Chesapeake Dylan Royal – Martinsville

#### TENOR SAXOPHONE

Adam Army – Millbury, MA Alyssa Bonner – Westminster, MD

#### BARITONE SAXOPHONE

Darius Turner - Mechanicsville

#### PIANO

#Aleksandra Velgosha – Moscow, Russia #Sarah Mason – Grand Rapids, MN

#### TRUMPET

Owen Brown – Charlottesville Logan Hayungs – Stafford Carter King – Mechanicsville Finn Marks – McLean Max Parrish – Woodbridge \*#Steffi Tetzloff – Rochester, MN

#### HORN

\*Jacob Andersen – Richmond Caroline Fauber – Salem Ainsley Hanson – Stuarts Draft Justin Ulmer – Mount Solon

#### TROMBONE

\*Shiv Love – Fairfax Quin Robinson – Warrenton Isaiah Tomalesky – Winchester

#### BASS TROMBONE

Peyton Barrett – Midland

#### EUPHONIUM

Jake Cuppernull – Herndon #Daisey Kludt – Watertown, TN

#### TUBA

Logan Davis – Harrisonburg Jake Munn – Newport News

#### STRING BASS

Jacob Minks - Centreville

#### PERCUSSION

Blaze Benavides – Alice, TX Tyler Ende – Williamsburg Brian McDermott – Brookings, SD Kobe Noel – Manassas Jonathan Ramirez – Manassas \*#Shane Roderick – Port Neches, TX

\*denotes principal/co-principal #denotes graduate student

The James Madison University Wind Symphony uses a rotational seating system to emphasize the importance of each performer. Therefore, each section is listed in alphabetical order.

# **Program Notes**

#### Mercury

*Mercury* is a concert march composed in a typically British idiom. In 1990, Jan Van der Roost wrote this piece on the occasion of the 15-year anniversary of his own band: Brass Band Midden Brabant. Like many British marches, the main theme is written in a minor key. Powerful and virtuoso themes characterize the first part of this march, while the trio melody is much more melodic, offering the tenor register a chance to display its lyrical skills. Follows a dynamic passage for trombones and trumpets/cornets, leading to a "grandioso" version of the main trio melody and thus concluding this march in a magnificent way. —*Program Note by publisher* 

### Shenandoah

The Shenandoah Valley and the Shenandoah River are located in Virginia. The origin of the name for this river and valley is obscure. The origins of the folk song are equally obscure, but all date to the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Many variants on the melody and text have been handed down through the years with the most popular telling the story of an early settler's love for a Native American woman. The composer writes

In my setting of *Shenandoah* I was inspired by the freedom and beauty of the folk melody and by the natural images evoked by the words, especially the image of a river. I was less concerned with the sound of a rolling river than with its life-affirming energy – its timelessness. Sometimes the accompaniment flows quietly under the melody; other times it breathes alongside it. The work's mood ranges from quiet reflection, through growing optimism, to profound exaltation.

-Program Note by Frank Ticheli

### Gershwin!

To celebrate the centennial of the great American composing team George and Ira Gershwin, here is a resplendent Warren Barker treatment of some of the Gershwin's fabulous hits, including *Fascinating Rhythm, Embraceable You, Somebody Loves Me, Someone To Watch Over Me*, and *I Got Rhythm.*—Program Note by publisher

### Variants on a Moravian Hymn

This work was commissioned by the Freedom High School Band to celebrate the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of that school's hometown: Bethlehem, Pennsylvania. Realizing that Bethlehem was in the very center of the many settlements of Moravian Baptists who founded this city, the composer searched for some sort of musical identity that would be appropriate, and found an obscure, but very beautiful, Moravian Christmas hymn entitled *Morning Star*, *O Cheering Sight*. Instead of composing a normal "theme and variations" based on this hymn, Barnes opted to save the tune in its entirety until the very end when introduced by a trombone choir, so it is essentially a "variations and theme". The instrumentation was chosen because the Moravians are most famous for their wonderful trombone choirs accompanying the singing in their church services. —*Program Note adapted from publisher* 

# Program Notes - Continued

### The Wild Goose

The ancient Celtic people who occupied the British Isles around 1,600 years ago were a people who shared a deep connection with nature and the world they found themselves in. Around this time Christianity found its way to this land and these ancients would often draw on their surroundings for symbolism. In the Celtic tradition the Holy Spirit is represented as a bird, but not as the delicate and peaceful dove found in other cultures but as an An Gé Fhiáin. The Wild Goose.

Like a wild goose, they perceived the Spirit of God as wild and untamed. Geese are loud, raucous, and strong. Their honk is challenging, piercing, unnerving. They are uncontrollable, difficult if not impossible to catch, and their actions cannot be anticipated (thus the phrase "wild goose chase"). These ancient people absorbed spirituality then not as something that you captured or something that you bent to your will. It was a pursuit, an adventure that you chased after. Their faith was one that was free and unpredictable.

Juxtaposed against the chaos of the goose chase, these ancients also had a phrase for those places where the distance between earth and the spiritual realm collapses, locales where we are able to catch hints and glimpses of the transcendent and where the divine seems to speak the clearest. They called these destinations "thin places".

In writing this piece I was intrigued by these two impressions: the wild and rambunctious Goose that calls us on an adventurous chase, and the tranquil, reverent thin places that the goose leads us to. These two thoughts intertwine, sometimes gracefully and other times forcefully.

The pieces is written in the free-form of a fantasy overture and is built around a five-note motif that variates throughout the allegro sections. A simple chordal hymn first stated by the horns provides the basis for the adagio segments. The goose, represented by an antiphonally staged solo English horn, shows up at various points in the work as both the boisterous motivator and the soothing counselor. Music influences coming from the Celtic traditions are faint early on in the piece but transition to the forefront towards the end as the emulated sounds of bagpipes, penny whistles, and Irish drumming transform the five-note figure into a reel and jig.

An Gé Fhiáin (The Wild Goose) was commissioned by Robert W. Clark as a gift to Dr. Barry K. Knezek in honor of his passion for and devotion to the Lone Star Wind Orchestra. The work was premiered by the same group January of 2014. —*Program Note by composer* 

## Symphonic Dances from "West Side Story"

Symphonic Dances from "West Side Story" was first performed by the New York Philharmonic on an all-Bernstein concert in 1961, four years after the opening of West Side Story on Broadway. The songs of the musical had immediately become popular standards, while at the same time the dance music had been sophisticated enough to find its way into concert hall, similar to music of a ballet. Most composers for Broadway were songwriters who did not write their own dance music, but Bernstein, a fully trained composer who had already written two formal ballets, crafted these remarkable dances himself.

The suite encompasses *Mambo*, a competitive dance between the gangs; *Cha-Cha*, when Tony and Maria see one another for the first time; and the *Finale*, love music and a procession that recalls the ever-popular aria *Somewhere*, but now with a more tragic sentiment. —*Program Note by California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo, Wind Ensemble concert program, 28 February 2015* 

## Wedding Dance

Jacques Press's *Wedding Dance* is a spirited horah or traditional Jewish circle dance, from his symphonic suite entitled *Hassenah (The Wedding)*. Composed in 1955 and arranged for band in 1967 by Herbert Johnston, this lively piece displays an infectious energy and quick tempo. With whirling woodwind lines and memorable melodies, the work exudes fiery energy and relentless pulse. — *Program Note from Fresno State University Wind Orchestra concert program, 2 October 2014* 

# Acknowledgements

The JMU Wind Symphony would like to congratulate the students listed below who are either student teaching next fall or graduating this May. Thank you for the wonderful musical contributions you have made to the JMU Band Program!

Ariel Collins, *flute* Anna Fenn, *flute* Mekhi Tyree, *oboe* Blaine Edwards, *clarinet* Ged Pearson, *clarinet* Jacob Andersen, *horn* Isaiah Tomalesky, *trombone* Shane Roderick, *percussion* 

Patrons are reminded to turn off all pagers, cell phones, personal computers, and any other electronic devices.

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# Woodwind, Brass, & Percussion Faculty

Beth Chandler Cahill	Flute
Jeanette Zyko	Oboe
Sarunas Jankauskas	Clarinet
Sue Barber	Bassoon
David Pope	Saxophone
Chris Carrillo	Trumpet
Ian Zook	Horn
Andrew Lankford	Trombone
Kevin J. Stees	Euphonium/Tuba
Casey Cangelosi	Percussion
Aaron Trumbore	Percussion

# JMU Band Program Personnel

Stephen P. Bolstad	Director of Bands
Scott D. Rikkers	Director of Marching Royal Dukes/
	Associate Director of Bands
Nieves VillaseñorA	ssistant Director of Marching Royal Dukes/
	Assistant Director of Bands
Kirk Weaver	Administrative Assistant
Miranda Cook	Graduate Assistant
Kinsey Holland	Graduate Assistant
Sarah Mason	Graduate Assistant
Shane Roderick	Graduate Assistant

# School of Music Staff

Dr. John Allemeier	Director, School of Music
Dr. Mary Jean Speare	Associate Director, School of Music
Dr. William Dabback	Director of Graduate Studies
Sarah Macomber	Operations Coordinator
Kimberly Velazquez	Executive Assistant
Brian Junttila	Administrative Assistant
Donna Wampler	Program Support Specialist