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Concert: Ithaca College Concert Band

Ben Rochford

Ithaca College Concert Band

Thomas Lee

Aaron Burgess

Greg Harris

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Ithaca College Concert Band

Benjamin Rochford, conductor
Thomas Lee, 2017 Arnald Gabriel Visiting Wind Conductor
Aaron Burgess, graduate conductor
Greg Harris, graduate conductor

Ford Hall
Thursday, December 14th, 2017
8:15 pm



ITHACA COLLEGE

School of Music

Program

God of Our Fathers

George W. Warren
arr. Claude T. Smith
(1932-1987)

Amazing Grace

Frank Ticheli
(b. 1958)

Variations on a Shaker Melody

Aaron Copland
(1900-1990)

Bayou Breakdown

Brant Karrick
(b. 1960)

Aaron Burgess, graduate conductor

Intermission

Footsteps

Dana Wilson
(b. 1946)

Greg Harris, graduate conductor

Incantation and Dance

John Barnes Chance
(1932-1972)

English Folk Song Suite

Ralph Vaughan Williams
(1872-1958)

I. March - "Seventeen Come Sunday"

II. Intermezzo - "My Bonny Boy"

III. March - "Folk Songs from Somerset"

Thomas Lee, 2017 Arnald Gabriel Visiting Wind Conductor

Galop

Dmitri Shostakovich
(1906-1975)
arr. Donald Hunsberger

Our Conductors

D. Thomas Lee is professor of music and director of bands emeritus at UCLA. He holds the doctor of musical arts degree from the University of Cincinnati College Conservatory of Music, as well as two degrees from Drake University in Des Moines, Iowa, where he was a student of Don Marcouiller. Previous to his appointment at UCLA, Lee founded and conducted the University of Texas at Austin Wind Ensemble and directed the graduate program in band conducting. Before his appointment at Texas, Lee was founder and conductor of the Ohio University Wind Ensemble, where he received a research grant to develop an innovative approach to teaching conducting through non-verbal communication. Lee arrived at UCLA in 1985. Since then, the UCLA Wind Ensemble received international acclaim and significant prominence for performances at national and regional conferences and recordings of important composers. Lee is known especially for musical performance, as well as creative programming, balancing both traditional and contemporary literature. In addition, he has a special commitment to the commissioning of new music by American composers. Lee created several new programs within the wind ensemble genre, including a collaboration between the Society of Los Angeles Film Composers and the UCLA Wind Ensemble, which resulted in an internship program for UCLA students to work directly with the most acclaimed film composers. A large number of his conducting students hold university, high school, and middle school teaching positions throughout the United States. He is particularly proud of these conductors and their achievement. Lee has been invited to guest conduct all-state bands and music festivals in all parts of the United States, Canada, Mexico, Western Europe, and Asia. In addition, Lee has given innumerable workshops on all aspects of conducting and interpretation of music, with special emphasis in the area of nonverbal communication skills. Since his retirement from UCLA, Lee maintains a full schedule of guest conducting and leading conducting workshops

Benjamin Rochford joined the Ithaca College School of Music in 2016 and currently serves as the Interim Associate Director of Bands. At IC, Rochford conducts the Wind Symphony and Concert Band and teaches courses in instrumental conducting and brass pedagogy. Prior to his appointment at Ithaca College, Mr. Rochford was a Doctoral Conducting Associate and PhD candidate at the University of Florida and also served as Director of Bands at the Valley Grove School District in Franklin, Pennsylvania. While at the University of Florida, his responsibilities included directing the UF Concert Band, assisting with the athletic bands, and teaching courses in conducting, music education, jazz improvisation, jazz history, and philosophy. In addition, Mr. Rochford managed marketing and promotional materials for the band department and assisted with the UF Wind Symphony and Jazz Band. Mr. Rochford completed a bachelors degree in Music Education from Mansfield University of Pennsylvania and a Masters degree in Instrumental Conducting from Youngstown State University in Ohio. Mr. Rochford's primary conducting influences include Dr. David Waybright, Dr. Stephen Gage, Dr. Adam Brennan, and Dr. Nathan Rinnert. Mr. Rochford has also participated in conducting symposiums with Ray Cramer, Tom Leslie, Robert Garofalo, and Ed Lisk and participated in Beethoven conducting master classes with Svilen Simeonov, director of the Sofia Sinfonietta in Bulgaria. He recently was a conducting participant in a conducting presentation by Craig Kirchhoff at the South Easter CBDNA conference in Charleston, SC. Mr. Rochford served as Director of Bands at the Valley Grove School District in Pennsylvania where he was responsible for overseeing the entire 5-12 instrumental music program. At Valley Grove, Mr. Rochford directed the district's athletic bands, jazz combo, and elementary, middle, and high school bands. He hosted and managed the PMEA District III Jazz Festival in 2012. He has also given presentation in Pennsylvania, New York, and Florida on a variety of topics including jazz improvisation, rehearsal techniques, student motivation, and authentic student self assessment within the paradigm of Harvard Project Zero and Arts PROPEL. Mr. Rochford is an active free lance trumpet player and has performed with the Erie Philharmonic, Venango Chamber Orchestra, Franklin Silver Cornet Band, and various jazz groups. Mr. Rochford has toured across the United States with wind bands

and has performed at Carnegie Hall. Recently, he performed with the American Chamber Winds throughout Italy and Switzerland. He has also performed with a number of notable jazz musicians including Bobby Shew, Wycliffe Gordon, Dennis DiBlasio, George Rabbi, Michael Davis, Dave Pietro, Ingrid Jensen, Ryan Kisor, and Chris Vidala. Mr. Rochford's professional affiliations include the National Association for Music Education, National Education Association, Florida Music Education Association, Florida Bandmasters Association, New York State School Music Education Association, Jazz Education Network, and the International Trumpet Guild. He was elected into the Phi Kappa Phi Honors Society in 2012.

Program Notes

God of Our Fathers

Originally written for brass choir and organ, this chorale prelude was rescored by Claude T. Smith for symphonic band where it has become a staple of concert band literature. Smith was one of the most successful composers of band music when his untimely death brought an abrupt end to a brilliant career. He taught instrumental music in the public schools of Nebraska and Missouri, and served on the faculty of Southwest Missouri State University. He was a composer or arranger of over 100 publications and was a dedicated educator and composer.

Amazing Grace

Regarding his own work, Ticheli wrote "I wanted my setting of *Amazing Grace* 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. The spiritual, *Amazing Grace*, was written by John Newton (1725-1807), a slave ship captain who, after years of transporting slaves across the Atlantic Ocean, suddenly saw through divine grace the evilness of his acts. First published in 1835 by William Walker in *The Southern Harmony*, *Amazing Grace* has since grown to become one of the most beloved of all American spirituals.

Variations on a Shaker Melody

This set of five variations on the Shaker melody, "Simple Gifts" is an excerpt from the composer's score for the ballet *Appalachian Spring*. "Simple Gifts" was composed in 1848 by a Shaker minister in Alfred, Maine. The tune became a hit in many Shaker communities and was later included in Edward Andrews' book *The Gift to be Simple* - the source for Copland.

Bayou Breakdown

Bayou Breakdown began as an attempt to write a fugue in the style of J.S. Bach. In writing the work, Karrick hoped to create a piece that could be immediately enjoyed by the listener, musician and non-musician alike. While the piece was written for Karrick's terrific students in the University of Toledo Wind Ensemble, it is dedicated to one of his most influential mentors, Frank Wickes, former Director of Bands at Louisiana State University.

Footsteps

The term "footsteps" can have different meanings. It can suggest everything from gently walking to mysterious uncertainty, to massive marching. This piece moves through this spectrum, gradually gaining power and drama. It was commissioned by supporters of the Clarkston Symphonic Wind Ensemble in Clarkston, Michigan.

Incantation and Dance

Incantation and Dance suggests a religious orientation, but not toward any of the established religions of a Western or Eastern culture. To the standard deities one offers prayers- incantations are uttered in rituals of magic, demonic rites, and the conjuring up of spirits, evil and benign. The opening Incantation is full of mystery and expectation, wandering, unstable, and without tonality. The Dance also begins quietly,

but percussion instruments quickly begin, one by one, to build a rhythmic pattern of incredible complexity and drive. Here there is no pretty tune but a paroxysm of rhythm, a convulsion of syncopation that drives on and on, mounting in tension, to a shattering climax of exaltation.

English Folk Song Suite

Vaughan Williams systematically rejected foreign Romantic influences and sought inspiration from native material, including Elizabethan and Jacobean music as well as English folk songs. *English Folk Song Suite* includes traditional folk songs he collected from the counties of Somerset and Norfolk in 1902. Adapting their modal harmonies and striking rhythms, he created an entirely individual style. This suite, written in the early 1920s, blends his own ideas with well-known folk songs.

Galop

Galop is from the operetta *Moscow, Cheremushky*. Admirers of Shostakovich's dramatic symphonies and concertos are likely to be unaware that the composer also wrote a very substantial quantity of lighter music as well, never scorning the possibility of creating a hit song. In his early days he composed incidental music and songs for many plays and even created a full-fledged operetta in the 1930s. He composed film music throughout his career as well, for both tragic and comic tales. In 1958, Shostakovich returned to the operetta for a full-scale three-act work, *Moskva, Cheryomushki* (the title refers to a region in the city of Moscow), which opened on January 24, 1959, to substantial success.

Ithaca College Concert Band Personnel

Piccolo

Dana Herbert

Flute

Laurel Albinder
Glenna McGarity
Catherine Sangiovanni
Jeremy Werner

Oboe

Steven Bluestein
Kathleen Cadorette
Courtney Webster
Giulia Zurlo

E-flat Clarinet

Ciara Solby

Clarinet

Skylar Berkley
Mikaela Vojnik
Morgan Volk

Bass Clarinet

Rebecca Butler

Bassoon

Anna Bornstein
Chloe Landau

Alto Saxophone

Alissa Settembrino
Amanda Swatling
Greg Walerski

Tenor Saxophone

Kelsey Beyer

Baritone Saxophone

Rachel Moody

Trumpet

Jason Bennet
Hayden Bustamante
Marí Larcheveque
Andrew Nolish
Austin Rannestad
Jen Rupert
Jason Springer

Horn

Gillian Basedow
Caeli Carroll
Mark Melchionna
Kayla Shuster

Trombone

Julianna Bourgeois
Ethan King
Steven Obetz, bass
Ben Sherman
Sean Stouffer

Tuba

Cameron Seib

Double Bass

Emani Barber

Harp

Elizabeth Ojeda

Timpani

Kelsey Bocharski

Percussion

Sirena Chargualaf
Kathryn Imes
Jake Staffin
Nicholas Thompson

Ithaca College Bands Ensemble Offerings

Ithaca College School of Music is proud to offer a full complement of large and chamber ensembles. Ensembles hold auditions for membership in the new three-tiered model at the beginning of the year and requirements are published well in advance. If you dream of being a professional musician, just enjoy playing an instrument, or anywhere in between, there is a place for you in IC BANDS! Included in the offerings are four distinctive ensembles.

Wind Ensemble* (Dr. Christopher Hughes, conductor)

The IC Wind Ensemble is a band of 50 highly qualified graduate and undergraduate students, chosen by audition, and performs a varied repertoire of the highest quality literature for winds. Membership of the Wind Ensemble will also perform selections of chamber winds repertoire each semester. The Wind Ensemble is dedicated to professional level performance while fostering the musical growth of its members.

Wind Symphony* (Mr. Benjamin Rochford, interim conductor)

The IC Wind Symphony is a select ensemble of approximately 60 musicians, chosen by audition. The Wind Symphony exists as a preparatory experience for the Wind Ensemble and provides a challenging musical environment for skilled musicians by performing repertoire that ranges from works for chamber winds, to standards of the band literature, to brand-new works for the wind band medium.

Concert Band* (Mr. Benjamin Rochford, interim conductor)

The IC Concert Band is an ensemble for underclassmen to learn and upperclassmen to lead the journey to professional level performance. This band provides instruction in ensemble performance skills through quality repertoire that is fit for the student, allowing them to have time to assimilate knowledge, skills, and attitudes necessary for advancement into the Wind Symphony and Wind Ensemble or any future musical endeavors.

Campus Band (Graduate Wind Conducting Students, conductors)

The Campus Band is a non-auditioned ensemble designed to meet the needs of students from all majors across campus. Music majors are encouraged to enroll while performing on a secondary instrument. This ensemble provides an educational experience and serves as an outlet for students who wish to remain musically active in a less intense setting. The course will be administered by the Director of Bands and conducted by the graduate conducting associates.

***Requires an audition for membership**

Ithaca College Band Staff

Dr. Christopher Hughes, Director of Bands

Mr. Benjamin Rochford, Interim Associate Director of Bands

Aaron Burgess, Graduate Assistant Conductor

Greg Harris, Graduate Assistant Conductor

Margaret Tippett, Work Study Assistant

Rebecca Jordan, Ensemble Music Librarian

The IC Bands extend a very special thanks to...

Colonel Arnald Gabriel ('50 HDRMU '89) for making possible the appearance of Thomas Lee, 2017 Arnald Gabriel Visiting Wind Conductor

Karl Paulnack, Dean, Ithaca College School of Music

David Pacun, Associate Dean, Ithaca College School of Music

Erik Kibelsbeck, Manager of Concerts and Facilities, Ithaca School of Music

Alexandria Kemp, Scheduling and Events Assistant, Ithaca College School of Music

Ford Hall Stage Crew

Ithaca College School of Music Wind, Brass, String, Percussion, and Keyboard Faculty

Becky Jordan, Manager of Ensembles & Kinyon Music Education Collections and her dedicated staff

Kristina Shanton, Music Librarian