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## Concert: Ithaca College Concert Band

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Mark Fonder

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ITHACA COLLEGE

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SCHOOL OF MUSIC

**ITHACA COLLEGE CONCERT BAND**

**Mark Fonder, conductor**  
**Dawn Pierce, guest artist**

**Ford Hall**  
**Wednesday, March 3, 2010**  
**8:15 p.m.**

**ITHACA**

# "American Tapestry"

Suite from Mass (1971)  
(for Brass Quintet and Concert Band)

Leonard Bernstein  
(1918-1990)  
Arr. by Michael Sweeney  
14'

*Alleluia*  
*Sanctus*  
*Agnus Dei*  
*A Simple Song*  
*Offertory*  
*Almighty Father*

Fantasies on a Theme by Haydn (1968)

Norman Dello Joio  
(1913-2008)  
14'

*Theme*  
*Fantasy I: Lo Stesso Tempo*  
*Fantasy II: Adagio*  
*Fantasy III: Allegro, Molto Spiritoso*

## INTERMISSION

Suite of Old American Dances (1949)

Robert Russell Bennett  
(1894-1981)  
18'

*Cakewalk*  
*Schottische*  
*Western One-Step*  
*Wallflower Waltz*  
*Rag*

Angels in the Architecture (2008)

Frank Ticheli  
(b. 1958)  
14'

Dawn Pierce, mezzo soprano

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## About the Program

Tonight's concert features music written by American composers and each of these composers has had a significant hand in defining what American music is, especially for the wind band.

Bernstein's *Mass* was written for the opening of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, D.C. Subtitled "A Theater piece for Singers, Players and Dancers," the 90-minute work is based on the liturgy of the Roman Catholic Mass. It called for a large pit orchestra, two choruses, boys choir, ballet company and cast, plus a marching band and rock combo. *Mass* uses an eclectic mix of musical styles and reflects the turmoil of the era, being viewed by some as blasphemous and by others as politically subversive. However, in his program notes at the premiere, Bernstein stated his intent "to communicate as directly and universally as I can a reaffirmation of faith." Over the years it has become recognized as one of his greatest, and most controversial achievements. In this suite, commissioned in 2009 by the Canadian Brass and Eastman Wind Ensemble, arranger Michael Sweeney focuses on a select number of movements, often using the brass quintet to represent the vocal lines found in the original.

Composer, organist and baseball player of professional standards, Norman Dello Joio was descended from three generations of Italian organists. A student of Paul Hindemith at Yale, Dello Joio is well established as one of the most lyrical composers of his era. *Fantasies on a Theme by Haydn* was commissioned by the Michigan School Band and Orchestra Association and was dedicated to Leonard Falcone at his retirement as director of bands at Michigan State University. The three movements are a constantly varied examination of Haydn's basic idea. The bubbling humor of the first and third fantasies flank a second which is intensely lyric.

Robert Russell Bennett was one of America's most capable arrangers of Broadway shows for over forty years. From 1920 to 1976 he scored all or part of more than 300 shows. At one time, 22 of the shows he had arranged for were running concurrently with collaborations with such notables as Irving Berlin, George Gershwin, Jerome Kern, Frederick Loewe, Cole Porter, Richard Rodgers and many others. Bennett has described tonight's suite as "American dance forms ... treated in a riot of instrumentation colors." By recalling several of the characteristic dances of his youth, Bennett achieved that rare wedding of artistry and novelty. Both musical ideas and instrumental writing are superbly effective.

*Angels in the Architecture* received its premiere performance at the Sydney Opera House in 2008 by a massed band of musicians from Australia and the United States. The work unfolds as a dramatic

conflict between the two extremes of human existence – one divine, the other evil. The Sydney Opera house itself inspires the work's title, with its halo-shaped acoustical ornaments hanging directly above the performance stage.

The angel- represented by the singer- frames the work, surrounding it with a protective wall of light and establishing the divine. Her song is a 19<sup>th</sup>-century Shaker song:

I am an angel of Light  
I have soared from above  
I am cloth'd with Mother's love.  
I have come to protect my chosen band  
And lead them to the promised land.

Other representations of light – played by instruments rather than sung- include a traditional Hebrew song of peace (“Hevenu Shalom Aleichem”) and the 16<sup>th</sup>-century Genevan Psalter, “Old Hundredth.” These three borrowed songs, despite their varied religious origins, are meant to transcend any one religion, representing the more universal human ideals of peace, hope, and love.

In opposition, turbulent, fast-paced music appears as a symbol of darkness, death, and spiritual doubt. Twice during this musical drama, these shadows sneak in, slowly obscuring the light altogether. The darkness prevails for long stretches, but the light always returns, more powerful than before. The piece ends as it began, with the angel singing the same comforting words. But deep below, a final shadow reappears – distantly, ominously.

*Program Notes by the composers and Mark Fonder*

## About the Soloist

Mezzo-soprano **Dawn Pierce** is a native of Olean, New York. She received a performing artist certificate in Opera Performance and a master's degree in Voice from the North Carolina School of the Arts. She holds bachelor degrees in Vocal Performance and Music Education from Ithaca College. She has apprenticed with Lake George Opera, Des Moines Metro Opera, Opera in the Ozarks, and the A. J. Fletcher Opera Institute.

Recently she was seen with Pensacola Opera as Margarite in the world premiere of *The Widow's Lantern*, as Dorabella in *Così fan tutte*, and as Second Lady in *The Magic Flute*. Other recent operatic credits include Contessa/Madelon in *Andrea Chenier* with Mobile Opera, Suzuki in *Madama Butterfly* with Capitol Opera, and Carmen in

*Carmen* with Opera in the Ozarks. On the lighter side her credits include *The Grand Dutchess* in *The Student Prince* with Nashville Opera, Franca in *The Light in the Piazza* with Piedmont Opera, and Jo in *Little Women* with Opera in the Ozarks. The A. J. Fletcher Opera Institute featured Ms. Pierce as Lucretia in *Rape of Lucretia*, Idamante in *Idomeneo*, Irene in *Belisario* and Elmire in *Tartuffe*.

Dawn presently studies with Penelope Bitzas and Bill Schumann. Her primary teachers have included Marilyn Taylor, Elizabeth Mannion and Carol McAmis. In her free time, Dawn enjoys making jewelry, reading, dancing, pilates and weight training.

## About the Conductor

**Mark Fonder**, professor of music, is the conductor of the Ithaca College Concert Band and has been teaching conducting and instrumental music education courses at Ithaca College since 1989. From 1994 to 2003, he was the Chairman of the Music Education Department. He is active as a guest conductor and clinician throughout the United States. Internationally, he has guest conducted, given research presentations or adjudicated bands in Austria, Japan, Canada, China, Singapore, Sweden and the United Kingdom. He has also served on the faculties of The University of Washington, VanderCook College and the Eastman School of Music. Dr. Fonder's research has been published in various journals including the *Music Educators Journal*, *Band Directors Guide*, *Instrumentalist*, *Journal of Band Research*, *Council for Research in Music Education* and the *Journal of Research in Music Education*.

He was chair of the *Music Educators Journal* Editorial Committee from 1998-2002 and is currently the editor of the *Journal of Historical Research in Music Education*. Dr. Fonder has played principal trombone with the Green Bay (Wisconsin) Symphony, the Green Bay Packer Band, and the San Antonio Brass. In 1987, Dr. Fonder was awarded the National Band Association-Wisconsin Chapter Citation of Excellence, in 1998, the Ithaca College President's Recognition Award and was a recipient of a University of Wisconsin teaching fellowship. He has been elected to Phi Delta Kappa, an honorary education fraternity, Phi Kappa Phi, an honorary scholars fraternity, Pi Kappa Lambda, an honorary music fraternity and the prestigious American Bandmasters Association.

# ITHACA COLLEGE CONCERT BAND

## Mark Fonder, conductor

### Piccolo

Christina Santoro

### Flute

Elizabeth Krimmel  
Emily Ball  
Dana Miraglia  
Allison Scott  
Andrew P.J. Sak  
Maya Holmes

### Oboe

Virginia Dodge  
Rachel Schlesinger  
Adrian Fisher

### English Horn

Rachel Schlesinger

### Bassoon

Lauren Jurczynski  
Shaina Zevallos

### E-Flat Clarinet

Marielle Zych

### Clarinet

Emily Pecoraro  
Michael Reinemann  
Laurel Stinson  
Jacqueline M. Widun  
Luben Daniel  
Marielle Zych  
Jamie Ocheske  
MK Huebener  
Tyler Seymour-Hawkins  
William Gunn  
David Geary  
Alyssa Fessenden

### Bass Clarinet

Michelle McGuire  
Jacqueline Burd

### Alto Saxophone

Seval S. Kanik  
Andrew Horwitz  
Eli Holden  
Benjamin  
Montgomery  
Kimberly Callahan

### Tenor Saxophone

Erika Friedman  
Richard Rose

### Baritone Saxophone

Andres Martinez

### Cornet/Trumpet

Eric Mahl \*  
Samuel Thurston\*  
Alexandra Payton  
Audrey Baron  
Alexander Schwind  
Marie Spoelstra  
Paul Schwartz  
Christopher Cadwell  
Kevin Cope  
Zachary Stadtmueller  
Ryan McKenna  
Rebecca Graham

### Horn

Dana Arbaugh  
Lauren M.C. Maaser\*  
Robert Oldroyd  
Riana Kane  
Nate Crider  
Edward Odio

### Trombone

Alicia Aubin\*  
Alex Knutrud  
Matt Confer  
J.C. VonHoltz  
Matthew Gillen  
Justin Oswald  
Ethan Zawisza  
Jenny Grossman  
Bass Trombone  
Peter Wall  
Brandon Reyes

### Euphonium

Jennifer Strayer  
Joseph Caldarise  
Peter Falango

### Tuba

Bill Connors\*  
Kevin Kozik  
Matt Bailey-Adams  
Danny Miranda  
Ryan M. Flynn  
Nicholas Courtney  
Dan Timmons

### String Bass

Casey Georgi

### Timpani

Ian Cummings

### Percussion

Jon Keefner  
Taylor Eddinger  
Brian Jones  
Chris MacNamara  
Peter Maaser  
Collin T. Smith

\* indicates Brass  
Quintet member

# Concert Calendar

## March

- 5 3:00 Mary Hayes North Competition For Senior Piano Majors  
7:00 Faculty Recital: Charis Dimaras, piano
- 7 3:00 Orchestra; Jeffery Meyer, conductor-- Annual Concerto Program
- 8 7:00 Faculty Recital: Wenqing Zhang and Nathan Hess, duo-pianists  
8:15 Vocal Jazz Ensemble; Laurie Keegan, musical director  
and Jazz Ensemble, Michael Titlebaum, musical director
- 10 7:00 Faculty Recital: Deborah Montgomery-Cove, soprano,  
Brad Hougham, baritone, and Charis Dimaras, piano
- 11 7:00 Faculty Recital, Frank Gabriel Campos, trumpet  
8:15 African Drumming and Dance Ensemble;  
Baruch Whitehead, director
- 22 7:00 Faculty Ensemble: Ithaca Brass
- 24 7:00 Faculty Recital: David Unland, tuba
- 25 8:15 Women's Chorale; Janet Galván, conductor  
and Brass Choir; Keith Kaiser, conductor
- 26 8:15 *Ithaca College Concerts 2009-10\**  
Cameron Carpenter, organ
- 27 8:15 Choir; Lawrence Doebler, conductor
- 28 4:00 Faculty Ensemble: Ariadne String Quartet
- 29 7:00 Guest Recital: Nathan Williams, clarinet
- 31 8:15 Concert Band; Mark Fonder, conductor  
and Horseheads High School Wind Ensemble

## Ithaca College Concerts 2009-10 (admission charge)

- September 11 Zuill Bailey, violoncello and Awadagin Pratt, piano
- February 13 Theodora Hanslowe, mezzo-soprano
- March 26 Cameron Carpenter, organ