

KANSAS STATE
UNIVERSITY BANDS

Kansas State University
Wind Ensemble

Dr. Frank Tracz, Conductor

Guest Conductor
Sharyn Worcester, Graduate Assistant



November 29, 2023
7:30 PM
McCain Auditorium

Wind Ensemble
Dr. Frank Tracz, Conductor

Crown Imperial: A Coronation March, 1937 (1937) William Walton (1902-1983)
arr. W.J. Duthoit (1885-1965)

Canzona (1954)..... Peter Mennin (1923-1983)
Conducted by Sharyn Worcester

Into the Silent Land (2018)..... Steve Danyew (b. 1983)

A Solemn Place (2013)..... Wayne Oquin (b. 1977)

Give Us This Day (2005)..... David Maslanka (1943-2017)

Wind Ensemble Program Notes

Crown Imperial: A Coronation March, 1937 (1937)..... William Walton (1902-1983)
arr. W.J. Dutoit (1885-1965)

This work was commissioned by the British Broadcasting Corp. for the coronation of King George VI on May 12, 1937. The BBC Orchestra premiered the work (with many composer recalls) six days earlier. The title is taken from the poem *In Honour of the City of London* by William Dunbar (1465-1520) and the quotation "In beauty bearing the Crown Imperial," was quoted by Walton at the head of his original score.

The enormous strength and sense of tonality of this brilliant coronation march come from the Tudor choral style which Walton knew so well. The first section has a quietly rhythmic opening which gradually builds to a splendid climax. A broad and stately melody, typically English in its majestic sonority, then provides the contrast to the first section, and the two themes are repeated and varied in the march to the finale.

Program note from Program Notes for Band

Canzona (1954)..... Peter Mennin (1923-1983)
Conducted by Sharyn Worcester

Canzona is a short, brisk work, which opens with a declamatory idea expressed in massed sonorities. Next, a broad melodic line is introduced and supported by powerful rhythmic figurations. This is followed by a cantabile section. These materials are developed and expanded, and the piece closes with the opening statements brought back in a more dramatic presentation.

Canzona was commissioned by [Edwin Franko Goldman](#) through The League of Composers, and was premiered by the Eastman Wind Ensemble, [Frederick Fennell](#) conducting, in New York on 15 June 1951.

Program note from the composer – Peter Mennin

Into the Silent Land (2018)..... Steve Danyew (b. 1983)

On December 15, 2012, twenty children and six educators were killed by a gunman at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Sandy Hook, Connecticut. Having grown up in Sandy Hook just a mile from the school, this is where I attended grades 3-5. For the past several years, I have thought about writing a piece of music that would reflect on this tragedy, but I have struggled to know where to start. Even after beginning to sketch out ideas for this piece, I felt unsure of where the piece should go and what it should communicate. In an effort to find a clearer sense of direction, I searched for poetry that reflected how I was feeling. When I came across "Remember," a moving poem by Christina Rossetti, I found the direction I was looking for. Through the simple idea of remembering – not forgetting that this happened, not forgetting these children, not forgetting the grief that their families must feel – I realized this is what I wanted and needed to communicate through music. "Into the Silent Land" was commissioned by a consortium of schools and individuals led by Dr. Jared Chase and Nazareth College.

Program note from the composer – Steve Danyew

A Solemn Place (2013)..... Wayne Oquin (b. 1977)

For as long as I can remember I have been involved in choral music. As a young student I spent countless hours singing, rehearsing, accompanying, and conducting choirs. The profound impact this has had on my musical training cannot be overstated: so much of the way I compose is from the vantage point of the singer.

Equally important to my musical development, particularly in my high school and early college years, is the vast amount of time I spent immersed with wind ensembles. My earliest compositions were written for my high school band.

The result is that I internalized a vast portion of the choral and band literature from a young age. In many ways, *A Solemn Place* represents the intersection of these two worlds at their most common denominator: breath.

In early 2013 I completed *O Magnum Mysterium*, an unaccompanied choral work, commissioned by my friend and long-time supporter Robert Gehrenbeck for his Whitewater Chamber Singers at the University of Wisconsin. When John Lynch heard the piece he urged me to consider writing **it** for his wind ensemble. *A Solemn Place*, the wind band realization of *O Magnum*, received its world premiere on October 31, 2013 by the Sydney Conservatorium Wind Symphony under John's direction.

As with much of my music, a seamless quality permeates the work. Though the harmony alternates between passages of tonal stability and those of transition, there is no pause, no complete cadence, for the four minutes of the piece. While the music begins mysteriously and ends triumphant, it is the exploration between these two destinations that I find compelling. To experience this piece is to be continually in the moment, unaware of what lies ahead or where the piece may lead, until the final chord.

Though *A Solemn Place* and the initial choral work on which **it** is based do not share the same title, the contemplative, spiritual nature of the choral work is preserved in the wind band adaptation. Both works are dedicated to a great teacher and friend, Mary Anthony Cox.

Program note from the composer – Wayne Oquin

Give Us This Day (2005)..... David Maslanka (1943-2017)

The words “Give us this day” are, of course, from the Lord’s Prayer, but the inspiration for this music is Buddhist. I have recently read a book by the Vietnamese Buddhist monk Thich Nhat Hanh (pronounced “Tick Not Hanh”) entitled *For a Future to be Possible*. His premise is that a future for the planet is only possible if individuals become deeply mindful of themselves, deeply connected to who they really are. While this is not a new idea, and something that is an ongoing struggle for everyone, in my estimation it is the issue for world peace. For me, writing music, and working with people to perform music, are two of those points of deep mindfulness.

Music makes the connection to reality, and by reality I mean a true awakensness and awareness. *Give Us This Day* gives us this very moment of awakensness and aware aliveness so that we can build a future in the face of a most dangerous and difficult time.

I chose the subtitle “Short Symphony for Wind Ensemble” because the music isn’t programmatic in nature. It has a full-blown symphonic character, even though there are only two movements. The music of the slower first movement is deeply searching, while that of the highly energized second movement is at times both joyful and sternly sober. The piece ends with a modal setting of the choral melody *Vater Unser in Himmelreich* (Our Father in Heaven), No. 110 from the 371 Four-part Chorales by Johann Sebastian Bach.

Program note from the composer – David Maslanka

Kansas State University – Wind Ensemble

FALL 2023

Listed Alphabetically

FLUTE

*Laura Bogner
Sienna DelBorell
Ella Greenup
Courtney Settey
Grace Woydziak

OBOE

Lily Linville
*Lucas Reed

CLARINET

Angel Amaro
Chloe Crooks
Audrey Farrell
*Erin Flax
Maddie Murnahan
Colton Stefanski
Theresa Wood

BASS CLARINET

Grace Dice
*Gabbie Phillips

BASSOON

*Ethan Karnes
Cassidy Schmidt

CONTRA BASSOON

Hannah Sullivan

ALTO SAX

Keith Carter
*Mason Ringer
Sara Schieferecke
Jordan Somers

TENOR SAX

Craig Brinkman

BARITONE SAX

Katie Anderson

TRUMPET

Kiersten Glass
*Kyle Grimes
*Shelton Launderbaugh
Paige Roberts
Bryce Schreiber
April Teoh

HORN

*Josie Anderson
Andrew Dearing
Nathan Dembski
*Braeden Jones
Aspen Tallent

TROMBONE

Reece Beckman
Blake Davis
*Logan Herring

BASS TROMBONE

Corbin Wood

EUPHONIUM

Austin Perr
*Drake Thompson

TUBA

*Lloyd Dodson
Chase Keesling
Chase Wassom

PERCUSSION

Devon Autry
Noah Dial
*Houston Fleischman
Jacob Morgan
Nathan Smith
Jessi Solorzano
Jake Wall

***Principal/Section Leader**

Wind Ensemble Conductor

DR. FRANK TRACZ is Professor of Music and Director of Bands at Kansas State University. He earned his B.M.E. from The Ohio State University, M.M. from the University of Wisconsin, Madison, and Ph.D. from the Ohio State University. He has public school teaching experience in Wisconsin and Ohio and has also served as Assistant Director of bands at Syracuse University and Director of bands at Morehead State University. Dr. Tracz has served as an adjudicator, clinician, speaker in various schools and conferences and has conducted All-State and Honor bands across the United States as well as in Canada, Singapore, South Africa, Fiji, Australia, and New Zealand.

At Kansas State, he directs the Wind Ensemble and the Marching Band, teaches graduate conducting, acts as an advisor to the Band Ambassadors, and administers and guides all aspects of a large BIG XII comprehensive band program. Ensembles under his direction have been invited to perform at numerous State conferences, MENC, two CBDNA regional conferences, The Larry Sutherland Wind band Festival at Fresno State, Carnegie Hall, Kennedy Center, and the American Bandmasters Association Conference. The marching band was awarded the prestigious Sudler Trophy in 2015. The Wind Ensemble has also performed at the International Convention of the American Bandmasters Association in 2019 in Loveland, CO.

Dr. Tracz is on the faculty of the Conn-Selmer Institute, on the adjunct faculty of the American Band College, is a past member of the Music Education Journal Editorial Board, is a contributor to the Teaching Music Through performance In Band series, and is past Chair of the Sudler Trophy Project of the John Philip Sousa Foundation in 2017. His honors include the Stamey Award for outstanding teaching, Kansas Bandmasters Outstanding Director award, Wildcat Pride Alumni Association award, the Tau Beta Sigma Paula Crider Outstanding Band Director award, being named a Lowell Mason Fellow, and membership in the Phi Kappa Phi Honorary Fraternity. He has also received the Conn- Selmer Institute Hall of Fame award, the Kansas State Professorial Performance award, and was elected to the prestigious American Bandmasters Association. Dr. Tracz was awarded an honorary doctorate from Doane University in May 2021. Dr. Tracz also led a very successful fundraising campaign raising over five million dollars for a new hall for the athletics band program. The “Tracz Family Band Hall” is scheduled to open early spring 2023.

Dr. Tracz is married to Geralyn, and has three daughters, Jessica Tracz Kelly, Kelley Tracz, and Carly Tracz Morris, and one grandson, Caden Tracz Kelly!

Guest Conductor

SHARYN WORCESTER has a diverse and extensive career in music education, performance, and adjudication throughout Kansas. She holds a Bachelor of Music Education degree and a Master of Music Education in Instrumental Conducting from Kansas State University where she studied under the direction of Dr. Frank Tracz, Director of Bands, and Dr. Jacqueline Fassler-Kerstetter, Associate Professor of Horn. Prior to continuing her studies, Sharyn served as the Lead Academic Advisor for the School of Music, Theatre, and Dance at K-State. In this role, she facilitated the academic progress for all undergraduate majors and minors in these degree tracks. As part of this work, in 2019, she presented "Music Beyond High School," at the Kansas Music Educator's Association In-Service Workshop to provide resources for educators to prepare their students for college music programs or careers. Additional duties included membership in the Music Course and Curriculum Committee and the Music Recruitment Committee, as well as advising Sigma Alpha Iota, the International Music Fraternity for Women.

Prior to her appointment at K-State, Sharyn served nine years as Instrumental Music Director at Junction City High School where her teaching duties included marching band, concert band, wind ensemble, music theory, music appreciation, and piano classes. Her bands have performed across Kansas and the United States including the Memorial Day Parade in Washington, D.C., the Fiesta Bowl Parade in Tempe, Arizona, and the Liberty Bowl in Memphis, Tennessee.

Sharyn performs as a member of the horn sections in the Manhattan Municipal Band and the Salina Symphony. She has performed in a myriad of musical pit orchestras throughout Kansas, which most recently includes the Manhattan Art Center's production of *The Sound of Music*.

Sharyn resides in Manhattan with her husband, Ben, their eleven-year-old son, Harley, and their husky/shepherd, Riley.

UPCOMING EVENTS

January 19-21, 2024
K-State Concert Band Clinic

March 6, 2024
Wind Ensemble & Wind Symphony Concert
McCain Auditorium
7:30pm Concert

March 7, 2024
Concert Band & University Band Concert
McCain Auditorium
6:00pm Call/7:30pm Concert

April 21, 2024
Wind Ensemble & Wind Symphony Concert
McCain Auditorium
Call Time TBA/3:00pm Concert

April 22, 2024
Concert Band & /University Band Concert
McCain Auditorium
6:00pm Call/7:30pm Concert

For more information, visit the K-State Bands website or email Courtney Grecu at cljensen@ksu.edu