

Kansas State University

Wind Symphony & Concert Band

Dr Alex Wimmer, Conductor
Dr. Zack Deininger, Conductor
Rich Ebersole, Graduate Assistant Conductor
Kyle Grimes, Graduate Assistant Conductor



October 8, 2024
7:30 PM
McCain Auditorium

Concert Band
Dr. Zack Deininger, Conductor

Unraveling (2006)..... Andrew Boysen, Jr. (b.1968)

Fivefold (2018)Michael Oare (b.1960)

Conducted by Kyle Grimes

Dum Spiro Spero (2010) Chris Pilsner (b.1986)

Declaration Overture (1976) Claude T. Smith (1932-1987)

Wind Symphony
Dr. Alex Wimmer, Conductor

It is Our Light... (2019)..... Giovanni Santos (b.1980)

Some treasures are heavy with human tears (2021)..... John Mackey (b.1973)

Dancing on Water (2015)..... Frank Ticheli (b.1958)

Chester (1778/1956)William Schuman (1910-1992)

Conducted by Rich Ebersole

Concert Band Program Notes

Unraveling (2006)..... Andrew Boysen, Jr. (b.1968)

In June of 2003, my good friend Randy Atkinson asked if I might be willing to conduct and compose a piece for the 2005 All-Iowa Middle School Honor Band. Randy and I have known each other for many years, and the opportunity to write a piece for him and also return to the state of Iowa was too tempting to bypass. I wanted to write a piece that would be exciting and challenging for the students, but attainable in the limited rehearsal time of only three and a half hours, so my concept was to use a rather difficult melody but repeat that melody throughout the work so that I only had to teach it once to the whole ensemble. The melodic line is based on the octatonic scale and the piece uses other techniques such as singing and buzzing on mouthpieces. The work is intended to become progressively faster, with a sense of increasing momentum and intensity. In a sense, the piece “unravels” in front of the listener. The title has dual meaning, though, as the concept of a repeating melodic line that gradually grows in intensity owes a great deal to Maurice Ravel’s famous orchestral work, *Bolero* (hence Un-“ravel”-ing).

-Program note from the composer – Andrew Boysen, Jr.

Fivefold (2018)Michael Oare (b.1960)

Fivefold was commissioned by the band directors in Sampson County, North Carolina. In conversations regarding the nature and scope of the work, the directors mentioned they would like the piece to include some reference to the five high school band programs in the school district. To incorporate as many “fives” into the piece as possible, several instances of “five” are present. Some are obvious, such as setting the piece in 5/4 meter. Others are subtle, such as the melodic and harmonic use of the interval of a fifth (and its inversion: a fourth). The most intriguing reference to “five” is that the entire piece is comprised of only five pitches: B^b, D, E^b, F, and A^b. (In fact, only these five pitches are used throughout the piece; with the lone exception being measures 116 and 117 where D^b and G^b briefly appear.)

-Program note from the composer – Michael Oare

Dum Spiro Spero (2010) Chris Pilsner (b.1986)

Dum Spiro Spero takes its title from a Latin phrase meaning “While I breathe, I hope.” When I read that phrase for the first time, I was taken aback by the incredible amount of power it held and immediately knew it would be the basis for a new piece.

When I started writing, my goal was to write something as deeply emotional and human as the title was. The result was a series of simple melodies supported by some of the most colorful orchestration and harmonies I’ve ever written. From the lush opening, the gentle singing, and ultimately the triumphal climax, the human quality to the music is what I think gives *Dum Spiro Spero* a powerful sense of grace and splendor.

It is dedicated to Casey Cropp, the man who has served as a mentor and friend for much of my musical career.

Dum Spiro Spero was commissioned by director Casey Cropp and the Rocky Mountain High School Wind Ensemble in 2009. The piece premiered on January 28th, 2010, at the Colorado Music Educators' Association Conference in Colorado Springs, Colo., with the composer conducting.

-Program note from the composer – Chris Pilsner

Concert Band Program Notes

Declaration Overture (1976) **Claude T. Smith (1932-1987)**

Claude T. Smith was a native of Missouri. He received his education from Central Methodist College, Fayette, Missouri and the University of Kansas, Lawrence. He composed extensively in the areas of instrumental and choral music, and his compositions have been performed by leading musical organizations throughout the United States and many foreign countries.

Declaration Overture is dedicated to Mr. Smith's wife, Maureen. The work was premiered by the North Central Bandmasters Honors Band at their 25th Anniversary Concert in Chillicothe, Missouri. The Allegro is based on variations of the five-note motive heard in the opening Andante Maestoso.

-Program note from the composer – Claude T. Smith

Wind Symphony Program Notes

It is Our Light... (2019)..... **Giovanni Santos (b.1980)**

It is our light... was commissioned in loving memory of Teresa Moura, the Director of Color Guard at Oak Grove High School in Oak Grove, CA. She worked alongside her husband Chris, who is the Director of Bands. Both arrived at Oak Grove in 1995, where they built the band and color guard into award winning programs.

The beginning of the piece begins with a 5-note motive, starting on Eb, and stands for *We Love Te-re-sa, or We Miss Te-re-sa*. The off-stage trumpet represents Chris speaking to his dear wife. A snippet of the UCLA fight song can be heard in the piece, as both Teresa and Chris were UCLA alums.

Giovanni Santos serves as Director of Bands and Associate Professor of Music at La Sierra University, where he directs the University Wind Ensemble, Chamber Winds, Big Band, and teaches courses in graduate and undergraduate instrumental music education, popular music, conducting and composition. Santos earned graduate degrees from the University of Southern California (MM) and Florida State University (PhD).

As a composer, Santos has premiered his works across the United States, Asia and Europe, including a premiere with the United States Naval Academy Band Brass Ensemble at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington D.C. under his baton. His works have received premieres and performances by ensembles at the University of Michigan, University of Illinois, Michigan State University, University of North Texas, Florida State University, University of Florida, Yale, Ball State University, Oklahoma State University, UCLA, Pacific Symphony Youth Wind Ensemble, Illinois State University, Tanglewood Young Artist Wind Ensemble, Interlochen World Youth Wind Symphony and many more. His works for wind ensemble, orchestra, chamber music, and solo wind instruments are published exclusively by Murphy Music Press, LLC. His compositions and passion for music education have received many recognitions, including a Meritorious Achievement Award by the Minority Band Directors National Association for “exceptional contributions to the wind band repertory.”

-Program note from the composer – Giovanni Santos

Some treasures are heavy with human tears (2021)..... **John Mackey (b.1973)**

(CONTENT WARNING: This program note describes an act of public mass violence and may be traumatic or uncomfortable to some readers. Discretion is advised.)

At 1:05 AM on Sunday, August 4, 2019 in the Oregon Historic District of Dayton, Ohio, a man armed with a semi-automatic AM-15 approached a crowded neighborhood bar and opened fire. In under thirty seconds, he fired 41 rounds, killing nine people and injuring another 17.

That’s where the story of John Mackey’s *Some treasures are heavy with human tears* begins.

One of the victims of the shooting was a young woman who had played trumpet in her high school band in nearby Bellbrook. The Bellbrook program reached out to Mackey to commission a work that would commemorate the tragedy, a task he approached with some reluctance:

I’ve been asked on several occasions to write pieces in response to tragedies, but I’ve rarely felt like it was appropriate. Something about this, though—happening in Dayton, where I’ve been many times, and so close to Columbus, where I grew up—that I felt like I wanted to try to say something musically, even though I was at a loss for what I could say verbally. Fortunately, Abby (my spouse) found this incredible title, which says so much before the music even starts. The last thing the community needed was a piece of music that relived the event. The piece isn’t trying to sound like **what** happened; it’s trying to convey what it feels like to **know** that it happened.

The piece is not programmatic. Rather, it exists in abstraction: a meditation on grief. In framing the work in this way, Mackey’s music transcends elegizing a singular horrific event and instead provides an artistic representation of how we cope with all tragedies, both those that are intensely personal and the ones that are communal. It explores a wide range of emotions, from denial through shock, fury, and anguish before finally finding an incomplete peace.

Some treasures are heavy with human tears begins with a simple motivic gesture: a rocking oscillation between flute and vibraphone that sounds akin to a lullaby. This principal motive carries throughout the piece, acting as the listener’s avatar through the emotional journey. A melody spins out from it, accompanied by ethereal ringing provided by crystal glasses

Some treasures are heavy with human tears continued...

and whirly tubes, and although the overall mood is one of melancholy, the atmosphere is also peaceful until a disorienting fog of trombone glissandi passes over. The songlike melody continues, at times abruptly shifting from the resigned mood of the home key of G minor to the distantly bright C major, evoking a fleeting remembrance of a more hopeful spirit, before just as quickly dissipating back. The simplicity of the opening returns, but this time fuller, with more voices joining before the glissando cloud returns (this time augmented by timpani), ushering in a new mood: confusion. The opening gesture reemerges, ceaselessly rocking in a rhythmic nature, oblivious to a building torment in the surrounding harmonies which become brasher and angrier as the piece approaches its dramatic climax. The apex of the piece is a wail, acknowledging the reality of the trauma in a moment of agony bordering on rage. This too, however, subsides, and the peacefulness of the beginning of the work returns to stay with one exception: as the final phrase of the work cadences and the last tones decay, a single muted trumpet rises from the silence in a bright flash and is suddenly extinguished.

John Mackey was born on October 1, 1973 in New Philadelphia. Mackey was not involved in any instrumental or choral program while attending growing up but found a fascination with electronic music notation from an Apple IIe computer program called Music Construction Set. He holds a Master of Music degree from The Juilliard School and a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from the Cleveland Institute of Music, where he studied with John Corigliano and Donald Erb, respectively.

-Program note from Jacob Wallace

***Dancing on Water* (2015)..... Frank Ticheli (b.1958)**

Dancing on Water is a joyous seven-minute tribute to my longtime friend and colleague, Richard Floyd. The work, partly inspired by Dick’s love of sailing, begins as an exuberant dance expressing feelings of unabashed joy and suggesting images of the sea on a perfect morning. This dance gives way to a heartfelt song, sung broadly by the horns and euphoniums and supported by a playful background of crisp eighth notes derived from the opening dance. This ‘song and dance’ might have been sufficient as the work’s material, but in the very center of the work appears something new — a kind of oasis, perhaps an island — a soulful interlude marked by mysterious solos and duos in the alto saxophone and clarinets. Then the work proceeds in reverse, suggesting an arch form, a return home by the same pathways, but with one final surprise. A massively full-throated coda lifts the exuberance level to new heights, driving this water journey to a powerfully exalted finish.

Frank Ticheli retired as Professor of Composition in the Flora L. Thornton School of Music at USC in spring of 2023. Frank Ticheli received his doctoral and masters degrees in composition from The University of Michigan. He has received numerous awards, and his orchestral and band works have been performed all over the world. Ticheli also appears as a guest conductor at many universities and music festivals around the country and throughout the world.

Program note by the composer – Frank Ticheli

***Chester* (1778/1956)William Schuman (1910-1992)**

Originally composed as the third movement of his New England Triptych for orchestra, American composer William Schuman immediately transcribed and re-worked Chester for concert band. He added additional percussion and lengthened (and strengthened) the last portion of the work for better effect. Since its publication in 1956, *Chester, Overture for Band* has become a popular standard work for bands around the world. This piece is based on a hymn tune composed by the early New England composer William Billings (1746-1800), first published in Boston as part of a collection called *The Hymn Master’s Assistant* (1778.) *Chester* quickly became a popular marching song in the Continental Army during the American Revolution. It was often played on the march by the Continental Army’s fifes and drums. The first stanza of the hymn tune aptly represents America’s revolutionary mood of the time: Let tyrants shake their iron rod, And Slavery clank her gangling chains, We fear them not, We trust in God, New England’s God forever reigns.

- Program Note from James Barnes

**KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY – CONCERT BAND
FALL 2024**

Listed in Alphabetical Order by Last Name

FLUTE

Katie Anderson
Jayda Baonga (Picc)
*Madisen Brecheisen
Kyra Case
Salem Ponnuru
Emily Taylor
Ki Weeks

OBOE

*Sylvia Cunningham

CLARINET

*Angel Amaro
Rolland Brengle
Jayden Brooks
Kinsey Buchholz
Payten Mayfield
Reed Nelson
Jonathan Rajewski
Yalena Sanchez

BASS CLARINET

*Bre Ledbetter

BASSOON

*Ryan Katzer

ALTO SAX

Patrick Amaro
*Dakota Forrester
Abby Kennedy
Sophia Orsbon

TENOR SAX

Damian Butler
Jeffrey Mesa
Jarrett Smith

BARITONE SAX

Wyatt Small

TRUMPET

Maddie Black
Andrew Dearing
Karson Griffin
*Evelyn Peat
Emily Reed
Ava Sedlacek
Jonathon Stults
Emmett Williams

HORN

Craig Brinkman
Daisy Hoff
*Tucker Settles

TROMBONE

Emma Graf
Jess Hargett
Luke Jayne
Jason Mercer
Lucas Schneider
*Michael Thompson

EUPHONIUM

*Chase Keesling
Stazzi Simmons
Kaden Williams

TUBA

Margaret Benson
*Alexis Sanford

PERCUSSION

*Brett Carter
Abby Gantz
Nathan Koupal
Veronica Ritter

***Principal/Section
Leader**

KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY – WIND SYMPHONY

FALL 2024

Listed in Alphabetical Order by Last Name

FLUTE

Josephine Benson
Paige Cannon
Melissa Fierro
Ella Greenup (Pic)*
Allison Reid
Cristine Rosales

CLARINET

Jessica Boyle
Jackie Cook
Payten Mayfield
Abbigail Rakes
Anna Ridgeway
Laine Schmalzried
Havely Wolff*

BASS CLARINET

Caleb Kissoon
Bre Ledbetter*

OBOE

Alli Gladfelder*

BASSOON

Kiri Baker-Davies*
Sarah Keary
Kate Marten

ALTO SAX

Merrick Figueroa*
Chris Gutierrez
Jarrett Peabody
Mason Thompson

TENOR SAX

Isaac Chase

BARITONE SAX

Cooper Carlson

TRUMPET

Owen Genereux*
Tristian Lewis
Ethan Oppold
Cameron Sadler
Jae Seefeldt
Mark Thompson

FRENCH HORN

Elijah Cunningham
Andrew Dearing*
Michael McCreight
Maddie Renner

TROMBONES

Jacob Daley*
Gabby Day
Zach Elliot
Shardae Sanders

EUPHONIUM

Miles Kehoe
Sydney Smith*

TUBA

Olivia Franco
Asmodeus Hull
Chase Keesling*

PERCUSSION

Dayton Hawkins
Mark McKinley
Brenden Scaglione
Jasper Vallad
Noah Vogel
Jessie Whelan*
Ryan Woodruff

*** Principal/Section
Leader**

Concert Band Conductor

DR. ZACK DEININGER is the Assistant Director of Bands at Kansas State University. His duties include directing the Concert Band, Volleyball Band, Cat Band (basketball pep band), and Pub Crawl Band; serving as Assistant Director of the *Pride of Wildcat Land* marching band, including arranging and writing drill for the KSUMB; and instructor of undergraduate courses in conducting and the history of country music. During the summer, Dr. Deininger serves as the Assistant Coordinator of the K-State Summer Music Camp and K-State Leadership and Auxiliary Camp.

Dr. Deininger received a Doctor of Musical Arts Degree in Wind Conducting from the University of South Carolina where he served as a graduate assistant with the Carolina Bands. At the University of South Carolina, he assisted with all aspects of the concert and athletic bands, including arranging and writing drill for the University of South Carolina Marching Band, and assisted with undergraduate conducting courses. Prior to receiving his doctorate, Dr. Deininger served as the Assistant Director of Bands at Green Valley High School in Henderson, Nevada (a suburb of Las Vegas). In this position, he co-directed the 175-member Green Valley Marching and Athletic Bands, directed the Symphonic Band, Concert Band, and Jazz Band III, served as assistant conductor of the Symphonic Winds, and was instructor of the Advanced Placement Music Theory course and Chamber Class. In addition to his duties at Green Valley High School, he also served on the Nevada All State Band Committee and as Chairperson of the Southern Nevada Band Association's High School Honor Jazz Bands.

Receiving a Master's Degree in Music Education from Auburn University in Auburn, Alabama, Dr. Deininger assisted with all aspects of the Auburn Band Program serving as conductor of the Auburn University Campus Band, assistant conductor of the Auburn University Symphonic Winds, instructor of the undergraduate advanced conducting course, and assistant to all aspects of the Athletic Band Program. He holds a Bachelor's Degree in Music Education from Bowling Green State University in Bowling Green, Ohio where he studied horn under Grammy award winner Dr. Andrew Pelletier and served as Drum Major for the Falcon Marching Band for three years under Dr. Carol Hayward.

Dr. Deininger is a staff member of various summer camps throughout the country where he instructs drum majors and student leaders in leadership and conducting. He also serves as a music and marching staff member for the Macy's Great American Marching Band held over Thanksgiving each year in New York City. Dr. Deininger is a member of the College Band Directors National Association, the National Association for Music Education, the Kansas Music Educators Association, the Kansas Bandmasters Association, and the Society of Pi Kappa Lambda. He is an honorary member of Tau Beta Sigma.

Wind Symphony Conductor

DR. ALEX WIMMER is currently serving as the Associate Director of Bands at Kansas State University. His duties include directing the Wind Symphony, Cat Band (basketball pep band), Volleyball Band, Pub Crawl Band, Assistant Marching Band Director for the Pride of Wildcat Land (KSUMB), arranger and drill designer for the KSUMB, and instructor of undergraduate and graduate courses in conducting, arranging, and marching band techniques. He also serves as the faculty sponsor for Kappa Kappa Psi and Tau Beta Sigma. During the summer he coordinates the K-State Summer Music Camp and K-State Leadership and Auxiliary Camp, and serves as one of the Assistant Directors of the Manhattan Municipal Band. Prior to his appointment at Kansas State University, Dr. Wimmer was a Graduate Teaching Assistant for the Kansas State University Bands. He assisted with all concert and athletic ensembles, undergraduate conducting courses, and Percussion Ensembles. His research interests include undergraduates conducting with expressivity and qualitative research.

Originally from Gretna, Nebraska, Dr. Wimmer received his Bachelor of Music degree from the University of Nebraska at Omaha, his Master of Music degree in Education with an emphasis in Wind Conducting from Kansas State University, and his Doctorate in Philosophy in Curriculum and Instruction from Kansas State University. Dr. Wimmer was the Director of Bands at Gretna High School and the Assistant Director of Bands at Gretna Middle School. He was a recipient of the Jack R. Snider Young Band Director Award in 2011 and served on the Nebraska Music Educators Association Leadership Academy from 2011-2012.

Dr. Wimmer is in demand as a conductor, clinician, and adjudicator as well as a percussion specialist. His professional affiliations include the Kansas Music Educators Association, the Kansas Bandmasters Association, the National Association for Music Education, the College Band Directors National Association, the Percussive Arts Society, Kappa Kappa Psi, Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia, and Phi Kappa Lambda. He is currently the president of the Kansas Bandmasters Association, as well a co-chair of the New Band Director Bootcamp during the Kansas Bandmasters Association's summer convention.

Graduate Assistant Conductors

KYLE GRIMES is from Saint George, Kansas, a small town east of Manhattan, and has earned a Bachelor's degree in Music Education from Kansas State University. During his time as an undergraduate, Kyle performed with the Wind Ensemble, Symphony Orchestra, Trumpet Ensemble, Undergraduate Brass Quintet, and University Band. He also marched with the "Pride of Wildcat Land" Marching Band and served as the Music Instructor of the trumpet section for two years. Kyle is a member of Kappa Kappa Psi.

RICH EBERSOLE is a native of Pennsylvania and a graduate of Temple University in Philadelphia, PA, where he majored in Music Education and Jazz Studies. Upon graduating, Rich moved to Arizona to begin his teaching career. Over his ten years of teaching in public schools, he has worked with all levels of students. He taught elementary band, strings and general music for two years before moving to the high school level. He experienced great success in building the band program at Dysart High School, from 11 students to 65 in four years. From there Rich moved to Liberty High School in Peoria AZ, where he again grew the band program from 60 students to just over 120 total students between Marching, Concert and Jazz Bands. Rich is married to Melissa, has a three-year-old son Elliot, and a one-year-old daughter Addison. Rich is currently working with the band program while pursuing his Master's Degree with an Emphasis in Conducting.

UPCOMING EVENTS

WIND ENSEMBLE CONCERT

Wednesday, October 9, 2024 – 7:30 pm
McCain Auditorium

CENTRAL STATES MARCHING FESTIVAL

Saturday, October 12, 2024
Bill Snyder Family Stadium

CONCERT BAND/WIND SYMPHONY CONCERT

Tuesday, November 19, 2024 – 7:30 pm
McCain Auditorium

WIND ENSEMBLE CONCERT

Wednesday, November 20, 2024 – 7:30 pm
McCain Auditorium

MARCHING BAND CONCERT

Sunday, November 24, 2024 – 6:00 pm
5:00pm
Bramlage Coliseum

CONCERT BAND CLINIC

January, 24-26, 2025

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