



Wind Symphony

Scott C. Tobias, conductor
Cheldon R. Williams, conductor

Friday, February 9, 2024 • 7:30pm

Lyell B. Clay Concert Theatre

College of Creative Arts

School of Music



PROGRAM

WVU Wind Symphony

Scott C. Tobias, conductor

KEVIN POELKING
(b. 1988)

Fanfare for a New Day

JOHN WILLIAMS
(b. 1932)
trans. Paul Lavender

Scherzo for X-Wings

MASANORI TARUYA
(b. 1978)

Archangel Raphael who leaves a house of Tobias

PERCY ALDRIDGE GRAINGER
(1882-1961)
ed. R. Mark Rogers

Children's March

Cheldon R. Williams, conductor

MATTHEW JACKFERT
(b. 1988)

The Sea of Mountains

OTTORINO RESPIGHI
(1879-1936)
trans. Guy Duker

The Pines of Rome

IV. PINES OF THE APPIAN WAY

Fanfare for a New Day / *Kevin Poelking (b. 1988)*

F*anfare for a New Day* begins with a declaration of celebration. Sub-groups of brass instruments call back and forth, excitedly interrupting each other as their notes overlap. The exchange reaches a burst of enthusiasm, until it suddenly settles with a proud statement introduced by the euphoniums.

As the music continues, the celebratory atmosphere falls away to uneasy harmonies. The conical brass emerge with a somber theme, as if remembering and appreciating the challenge and struggle that preceded this joyous time.

After an uplifting transition that shakes away the old memories, the first two themes reappear. This time, the music is more brilliant than before, as if knowing the hardship of the past has given this victory new merit. The relentless momentum of the percussion and full power of the brass drive the piece to an ecstatic and triumphant conclusion.

Fanfare for a New Day is dedicated to those who are challenging themselves to overcome the obstacles in their way, knowing that one day they will look back and say, "Look at what I have accomplished."

- Kevin Poelking

Scherzo for X-Wings / *John Williams (b. 1932)*

trans. Paul Lavender

Over the years, George Lucas' *Star Wars* saga has continued to hold its grip on the imagination of its millions of fans worldwide. Presented with the task of renewing and extending the great story, in *Star Wars: The Force Awakens*, director J.J. Abrams has risen to the challenge magnificently. New and exciting characters join the original cast on a joy ride that offered rich possibilities to extend the musical score. Daisey Ridley, John Boyega, and Harrison Ford give particularly strong performances, and it's been my privilege to musically accompany their fresh and energetic screen presence.

For the soundtrack recording, we had the services of a brilliant Los Angeles-based studio orchestra, and with this new music, my hope is that other orchestras, bands, and audiences may also want to continue to join in the fun of *Star Wars*.

- John Williams

Archangel Raphael who leaves a house of Tobias /

Masanori Taruya (b. 1978)

Composed for the Osaka Philharmonic Winds, *Archangel Raphael who leaves a house of Tobias* was inspired by the story of the Archangel Raphael in the Book of Tobit. The composer includes a brief synopsis of the story in the score:

"While traveling with Raphael disguised as a human, Tobias met Sara who was possessed by a demon. Following the instructions of Raphael, Tobias smoked the heart and the liver of a huge fish he had caught, and Sara was exorcised. Later, Tobias married Sara after heeding Raphael's advice, and they lived happily after. When Tobias returned home, he poured the liver juice over the blind eyes of his father, and he regained his eyesight. Then, Raphael revealed his true self, instructed them to write down the story, and returned to Heaven."

PROGRAM NOTES

Children's March / *Percy Aldridge Grainger (1882-1961)* *ed. R. Mark Rogers*

Children's March: "Over the Hills and Far Away" began as a piano solo composed by Grainger at some point between 1916 and 1918. Grainger began the band arrangement of the work while serving as a member of the United States Coast Artillery Band in 1918. The choices in scoring were largely influenced by the instrumentation of that band at the time. While an original composition, the melody is extremely "folk-like," a typical characteristic of Grainger's music.

Children's March is generally considered to be one of the earliest pieces written for piano and wind band. The work also incorporates the innovative use singing in two passages where members of the ensemble are asked to vocalize parts while not playing their instruments.

In the score, Grainger included the dedication "For my playmate beyond the hills." Grainger scholars believe this individual to be Karen Holton, described as "a Scandinavian beauty with whom Grainger corresponded for eight years but did not marry because of his mother's jealousy."

The Sea of Mountains / *Matthew Jackfert (b. 1988)*

The *Sea of Mountains* refers to an experience I had flying over the Appalachians. It wasn't the first flight I've taken over them, or even a particularly interesting one, but it was the first time I noticed the mountains looking like waves of an ocean forming through time on the slowest of scales. A waveform that's almost frozen in place built on a massive canvas, moving at a glacial pace. In this piece, you'll hear the experience of the flight over the brooding ancient mountains, the ebbing and flowing of the ripples in the hills, and the spectacular views they've created.

- Matthew Jackfert

The Pines of Rome / *Ottorino Respighi (1879-1936)* *trans. Guy Duker*

The *Pines of Rome* is the second of three tone poems written by Ottorino Respighi between 1917 and 1929 paying tribute to The Eternal City, Rome. The premiere took place on December 14, 1924, at the Teatro Augusteo in Rome.

In the score, Respighi provided his own detailed notes for each of the four movements. Of the fourth movement, *The Pines of the Appian Way*, he stated:

"Misty dawn on the Appian Way. The tragic country is guarded by solitary pines. Indistinctly, incessantly, the rhythm of innumerable steps. To the poet's fantasy appears a vision of past glories; trumpets blare, and the army of the Consul advances brilliantly in the grandeur of a newly risen sun toward the Sacred Way, mounting in triumph the Capitoline Hill."

Flute

- Abigail DeKam**
Platte, SD - Music Performance (BM)
- Shaylee Groves**
Weirton, WV - Music Education (BM)
- Juniper Parker***
Georgetown, KY - Music Performance (MM)
- Daniel Zipin**
Towson, MD - Conducting (MM)

Oboe

- Geoffrey Madge***
Pittsburgh, PA - Music Performance (BM)
- Malik Nowlin**
Rustburg, VA - Music Performance (MM)

Bassoon

- Adam Ferguson**
Charleston, WV - Music Education (BM)
- Eli Hall***
Left Hand, WV - Music Performance (BM)

Clarinet

- Natalie Alfera**
New Castle, PA - Music Education (BM)
- Margaret Benison**
Morgantown, WV - Music Education (BM)
- Kaylee Coleman**
Buffalo, WV - Music Education (BM)
- Syndi Miller***
Warren, PA - Music Performance (MM)
- Tiara Simon**
Dallas, TX - Music (BA) & Psychology (BA)
- Morgan Stratton**
Dover, DE - Music Education (BM)

Bass Clarinet

- Nicky Keefover**
Fairmont, WV - Music Performance (BM)

Alto Saxophone

- Alexis Mason***
Waynesburg, PA - Music Performance (BM)
- Andres Santana**
Chino, CA - Music Performance (DMA)

Tenor Saxophone

- David Gutmann**
Morgantown, WV - Music Education (BM)

Baritone Saxophone

- Evan Barnette**
Ripley, WV - Music Education (BM)

Horn

- Collin Briggs**
Martins Ferry, OH - Multidisciplinary Studies (BA)
- Kyle Jones**
St. Marys, WV - Music Performance (BM)
- Katrina Mullen**
San Antonio, TX - Music Education (BM)
- Jacob Schear***
Leesburg, VA - Music Performance (BM)

Trumpet

- Samara Chamberlain**
Charleston, WV - Music (BA)
- Tyler Evans***
Sturgeon, PA - Music Education (BM)
- Mark Humbert**
Pittsburgh, PA - Music Education (BM)
- Garrett Materne**
Buckhannon, WV - Music Education (BM)
- Vanderbilt Singleton**
Columbia, SC - Music Performance (DMA)
- Mallory Williams**
Newark, NY - Conducting (MM)
- Joshua Lugo Zambrano**
Chantilly, VA - Music Performance (BM)

Trombone

- Ian McIntyre**
Shinnston, WV - Music Business & Industry (BS)
- Badyn Woodford**
St. Clairsville, OH - Music Education (BM)

Bass Trombone

- Ryan Hogue**
Dunbar, WV - Music Education (BM)
- Olivia Nixon***
Canonsburg, PA - Music Education (BM)

Euphonium

- Ayden Jacobs-Endicott**
Man, WV - Music Education (BM)
- Isaac Neff**
Paden City, WV - Music Education (BM)
- Zachary Tunick***
Fairfax, VA - Music Education (BM)

Tuba

- Isaac Nazelrodt**
Petersburg, WV - Music Education (BM)
- Evan Turner***
Hagerstown, MD - Music Education (BM)

PERSONNEL (cont.)

Percussion

Sasha Bondarchuk

Eldersburg, MD - Music Education (BM)

Jonah Eggert

Weirton, WV - Music Composition (BM)

Jose Gonzales*

Somerville, TX - Music Performance (MM)

Dylan Gore

Salisbury, MD - Music Education (BM)

Christopher Little

Bristow, VA - Music Performance (BM)

Braden Lloyd

Bethel Park, PA - Music Education (BM)

Piano

Ryan McWilliams

Perryopolis, PA - Music Composition (BM)

Graham Sterling

Masontown, PA - Collaborative Piano (MM)

Harp

Brittany Blair

WVU Faculty

* - Principal



Scott C. Tobias currently holds the position of Director of Bands and Associate Professor of Music at West Virginia University where his responsibilities include conducting the WVU Wind Symphony, teaching undergraduate and graduate courses in conducting, and providing administrative leadership for the WVU Bands program.

Dr. Tobias presently serves as the Immediate Past President of the Big 12 Band Directors Association and is a Past President of the National Band Association. He currently serves as Executive Secretary of the National Band Association. In 2022, Dr. Tobias was elected to membership in the prestigious American Bandmasters Association. Additional professional affiliations include Phi Beta Mu, College Band Directors National Association, National Association for Music Education, West Virginia Music Educators Association, Pi Kappa Lambda, Kappa Kappa Psi, Tau Beta Sigma, Sigma Alpha Iota, and Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia.



Cheldon R. Williams holds the positions of Associate Director of Bands and the Director of Athletic Bands at West Virginia University. Additionally, Dr. Williams teaches Music Arranging for Public School Groups as part of the undergraduate music education curriculum. Prior to his appointment at WVU, Dr. Williams earned his Bachelor of Music Education and Master of Music Education degrees from Florida State University in 2004 and 2014, served as Associate Director of Bands at New Mexico State University in 2016, and earned his Doctor of Musical Arts degree at The University of Texas at Austin in 2020.

Dr. Williams works as a guest clinician and adjudicator for middle and high school bands, orchestras, and color guards across the United States. Williams is currently arranging and transcribing music for the wind band medium with the goal of introducing musicians to composers who have been historically underrepresented due to their race or gender with a project titled the Rediscovery Series. Under distribution through Murphy Music Press, his arrangements have been performed at the University of Texas at Austin and by the West Virginia University Symphonic Band.



West Virginia University®

SCHOOL OF MUSIC

BANDS FACULTY & STAFF

Scott C. Tobias
Director of Bands

Cheldon R. Williams
Associate Director of Bands

Juniper Parker
Graduate Assistant

Nate Penven
Graduate Assistant

Mallory Williams
Graduate Assistant

Brandon Lojewski
Program Assistant

Don Wilcox
Director of Bands Emeritus

STUDIO FACULTY

Nina Assimakopoulos
Flute

Cynthia Anderson
Oboe

Andy Sledge
Bassoon

John Weigand
Clarinet

Jeffery Siegfried
Saxophone

Robert Sears
Trumpet

Albert Houde
Horn

Hakeem Bilal
Trombone

Carson McTeer
Euphonium/Tuba

George Willis
Percussion

Lucy Mauro
Piano

Christine Mazza
Harp

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

WEST VIRGINIA UNIVERSITY ADMINISTRATION

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Sandra Schwartz.....Associate Dean, College of Creative Arts
Kelly BurkeDirector, School of Music

CREATIVE ARTS CENTER

Jamie Whoolery Coordinator of Production Services & Facilities
Martin Chitum..... Facilities Coordinator
Peter McCumber Academic Lab Manager
Michael McGinley Academic Lab Manager
Jason Zeh Academic Lab Manager

UPCOMING WVU BANDS EVENTS

WVU Symphonic Band Concert.....February 21, 7:30 pm
Wind Symphony Concert.....February 26, 7:30 pm
Wind Symphony - CBDNA Performance (Memphis, TN) ... March 2, 11:30 am

WVU BANDS OFFICE

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