

Wind Symphony

Scott C. Tobias, conductor

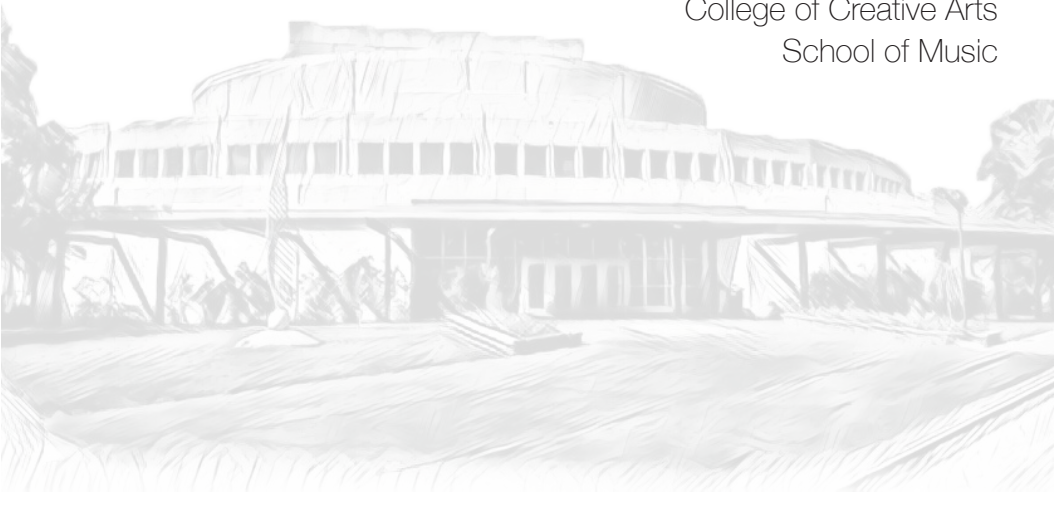
“Let’s GO WEST Virginia!”

Sunday, September 10, 2023 • 2:00pm

Lyell B. Clay Concert Theatre

College of Creative Arts

School of Music



PROGRAM

WVU Wind Symphony

Scott C. Tobias, conductor

JOHN WILLIAMS
(b. 1932)
TRANS. JAY BOCOOK

The Cowboys

RON NELSON
(b. 1929)

Sonoran Desert Holiday

BENJAMIN HORNE
(b. 1995)

Deep River

AARON COPLAND
(1900-1990)
ARR. MARK ROGERS

"Hoe-Down" from Rodeo

JOHN MACKEY
(b. 1973)

Sasparilla

The Cowboys / *John Williams (b. 1932)* *trans. Jay Bocook*

The *Cowboys* is a typical example of John Williams's capacity to enrich a film story with an almost narrative musical score. Through music, we are transported to the Old West and experience the joys and hardships of cowboy life. Taken from the 1972 motion picture, *The Cowboys*, the music complements the story of a 60-year-old Montana cattleman who enlists (and ultimately mentors) ten schoolboys as cowboys after the regular ranch hands have left with Gold Rush fever. The 400-mile cattle drive provides the boys with a different and harsher schooling as they learn the rigors of the job and have to deal with rustlers. The music conveys the high spirit of wild horses and their taming. Jollity around the campfire is contrasted against the loneliness of the open range. The plains have a beauty, though, which is reflected in the song of a lark. The hard work of the cattle drive, including the fording of the wide, muddy river and dealing with many fears and threats, succeeds in maturing the boys into men.

(note from California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo)

Sonoran Desert Holiday / *Ron Nelson (b. 1929)*

Sonoran *Desert Holiday* is a quasi-programmatic piece, the final in a series of eight overtures which began in 1953 with *Savannah River Holiday*. Although no specific program is intended, there are gestures and allusions to night, to sunrise, to Native American and Hispanic influences, to wide open southwestern expanses, and to the remarkable variety of holiday experiences available in this diverse and beautiful part of our country.

Following a long and distinguished career at Brown University, composer Ron Nelson retired to Scottsdale, Arizona, and used his experiences in the American Southwest as inspiration for this work. While many of his overtures were originally composed for orchestra and later transcribed for wind band, *Sonoran Desert Holiday* was written specifically for the wind band medium.

(note from the publisher)

Deep River / *Benjamin Horne (b. 1995)*

Deep *River* is an arrangement of the traditional spiritual of the same name for wind band. This arrangement is inspired by a popular art song version by Henry Burleigh. His low baritone voice as well as renditions by singers such as Paul Robeson are the motivation for this version's use of solo tuba for the song's initial presentation. Other allusions to Burleigh can be found throughout this work. The lyrics are:

*Deep river, my home is over Jordan.
Deep river, Lord, I want to cross over into campground*

*Oh, don't you want to go to that Gospel feast?
That Promised Land, where all is peace?*

PROGRAM NOTES

Hoe-Down from “Rodeo” / Aaron Copland (1900-1990) arr. Mark Rogers

The Ballet Russe de Monte Carlo commissioned the choreographer Agnes de Mille and the composer Aaron Copland to collaborate on the creation of a western ballet for its 1942-43 season. Originally sub-titled “The Courting at Burnt Ranch,” **Rodeo** was first produced at the Metropolitan Opera House on October 16, 1942, with scenery by Oliver Smith and costumes by Kermit Love.

The idea for the ballet was devised by Miss de Mille who described it as follows: “Throughout the American Southwest, the Saturday afternoon rodeo is a tradition. On the remote ranches, as well as in the trading centers and the towns, the ‘hands’ get together to show off their skills in roping, riding, branding, and throwing. Often, on the more isolated ranches, the rodeo is done for an audience that consists only of a handful of fellow-workers, women-folk, and those nearest neighbors who can make the eighty or so mile run-over. The afternoon’s exhibition is usually followed by a Saturday night dance at the Ranch House. The theme of the ballet is basic. It deals with the problem that has confronted all American women, from earliest pioneer times, and which has never ceased to occupy them throughout the history of the building of our country: how to get a suitable man.”

The music was written in June and orchestrated in September, 1942. The composer subsequently extracted an orchestral suite from the ballet score for concert performance under the title, *Four Dance Episodes from Rodeo: I. Buckaroo Holiday, II. Corral Nocture, III. Saturday Night Waltz, IV. Hoe-down*. A number of American folk songs are woven into the score. Source material was drawn from *Our Singing Country* by John A. and Alan Lomax and Ira Ford’s *Traditional Music of America*. A square dance tune called “Bonyparte” provides the principal theme of *Hoe-down*.

(note by the publisher)

Sasparilla / John Mackey (b. 1973)

S*asparilla* was a type of liquor served in saloons in the old west. It has since become a non-alcoholic root beer-like beverage, and if the listener happens to be under the age of 21, I suggest you choose the latter description. Whether it be from bad liquor or terribly funky soda, *Sasparilla* tells the tale of an Old West saloon, and the specific tale seems to vary, depending on the listener. Some hear a pony who drinks from a fermented trough and goes on a joyride to Tijuana. Some hear a cowboy who can’t hold his drink. Some suggest the old west as viewed through the eyes of the old Warner Brothers cartoons.

- John Mackey

PERSONNEL

Flute

Abigail DeKam

Platte, SD - Music Performance (BM)

Shaylee Groves

Weirton, WV - Music Education (BM)

Juniper Parker

Georgetown, KY - Music Performance (MM)

José Fernando Ramírez-Macías*

Medellin, Colombia - Music Performance (DMA)

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)

Magaret Benison

Morgantown, WV - Music Education (BM)

Sydni Miller*

Warren, PA - Music Performance (MM)

Tiara Simon

Dallas, TX - Music (BA)

Lauren Sperry

Uniontown, PA - Music Education (BM)

Morgan Stratton

Dover, DE - Music Education (BM)

Bass Clarinet

Kaylee Coleman

Buffalo, WV - Music Education (BM)

Alto Saxophone

Nicky Keefover

Fairmont, WV - Music Performance (BM)

Alexis Mason*

Waynesburg, PA - Music Performance (BM)

Tenor Saxophone

David Gutmann

Morgantown, WV - Music Education (BM)

Baritone Saxophone

Dillon Johnson

Winfield, WV - Music Education (BM)

Horn

Collin Briggs

Martins Ferry, OH - Multidisciplinary Studies (BA)

Adam Hatcher

Williamstown, WV - Music Education (BM)

Katrina Mullen

*San Antonio, TX - Music Education (BM) &
Music Composition (BM)*

Jacob Schear*

Leesburg, VA - Music Performance (BM)

Trumpet

Lukas Bojt

Topton, PA - Economics (BS)

Samara Chamberlain

Charleston, WV - Music (BA)

Simon Cheuvront

Clarksburg, WV - Music Education (BM)

Mark Humbert*

Pittsburgh, PA - Music Education (BM)

Garrett Materne

Buckhannon, WV - Music Education (BM)

Philip Wilfong

Red House, WV - Music Education (BM)

Joshua Lugo Zambrano

Chantilly, VA - Music Performance (BM)

Trombone

Jakob Baker*

Philippi, WV - Music Education (BM)

Ryan Hogue

Dunbar, WV - Music Education (BM)

Ian McIntyre

Shinnston, WV - Music Business & Industry (BS)

Bass Trombone

Olivia Nixon

Canonsburg, PA - Music Education (BM)

Euphonium

Cameron Cornwall

Leesburg, VA - Music Business & Industry (BS)

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)

Double Bass

Grey Woods

Moundsville, WV - Art Therapy (BA)

PERSONNEL (cont.)

Percussion

- Dylan Gore**
Salisbury, MD - Music Education (BM)
- Jonah Henthorne***
Wheeling, WV - Music Education (BM)
- George Kester**
Middlebourne, WV - Music Education (BM)
- Christopher Little**
Bristow, VA - Music Performance (BM)
- Braden Lloyd**
Bethel Park, PA - Music Education (BM)
- Brandon Saghy**
Uniontown, PA - Music Education (BM)

Piano

- Ryan McWilliams**
Perryopolis, PA - Music Education (BM)
- Graham Sterling**
Masontown, PA - Collaborative Piano (MM)

Harp

- Rose Tobery**
Frederick, MD - Engineering (BS)

* - 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. Prior to his appointment at West Virginia University, Dr. Tobias served as Director of Bands at the University of Central Florida and as Associate Director of Bands at Appalachian State University. He also previously served as a high school band director in the public schools of Georgia and South Carolina.

Bands under Dr. Tobias' direction have performed nationally and internationally at events such as the New York Wind Band Festival in Carnegie Hall, the Western International Band Clinic, the Cabalgata de Reyes (Madrid, Spain), and the London New Year's Day Parade. Dr.

Tobias remains active as a guest conductor and clinician conducting collegiate honor bands, all-state bands, and district honor bands throughout the United States. Additionally, he has presented sessions at conferences including the Midwest International Band and Orchestra Clinic, the Florida Music Educators Association Conference, and the West Virginia Music Educators Association Conference.

Dr. Tobias is a recipient of the National Band Association Citation of Excellence and has been named to Who's Who Among America's Teachers. While at Appalachian State University, he was also recognized with the University of North Carolina Board of Governors Excellence in Teaching Award as well as the Hayes School of Music Outstanding Teacher Award.

Dr. Tobias is a Past President of the National Band Association and currently serves as the Executive Secretary of that organization. He also serves as Past President of the Big 12 Band Directors Association. In March of 2022, Dr. Tobias was elected to membership in the prestigious American Bandmasters Association.

A native of South Carolina, Dr. Tobias earned the Bachelor of Music degree in Music Education from Furman University, and both the Master of Music Education degree and the Doctor of Musical Arts degree in Conducting from the University of Georgia.

FACULTY AND STAFF



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

Christine Mazza
Harp

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

WEST VIRGINIA UNIVERSITY ADMINISTRATION

E. Gordon GeePresident
Maryanne ReedVice-President & Provost
Keith Jackson.....Dean, College of Creative Arts
Sandra Schwartz.....Associate Dean, College of Creative Arts
Mikylah Myers.....Assistant 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 McGinleyAcademic Lab Manager
Jason ZehAcademic Lab Manager

UPCOMING WVU BANDS CONCERTS

Symphonic Band ConcertOctober 3, 7:30 pm
Wind Symphony Concert.....October 22, 2:00 pm
Symphonic Band Concert November 14, 7:30 pm
Wind Symphony Concert..... December 3, 2:00 pm

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