

Wind Symphony

Scott C. Tobias, conductor
Eric Brewer, graduate conductor

Wine-Dark Sea

Tuesday, April 29, 2025 • 7:30pm

Lyell B. Clay Concert Theatre

Canady Creative Arts Center



PROGRAM

WVU Wind Symphony

Scott C. Tobias, conductor

PAUL DUKAS
(1865-1935)

Fanfare “La Peri”

Eric Brewer, conductor

JOHN MACKEY
(b. 1973)

Wine-Dark Sea

- I. HUBRIS**
- II. IMMORTAL THREAD, SO WEAK**
- III. THE ATTENTIONS OF SOULS**

Fanfare “La Peri” / *Paul Dukas (1865-1935)*

Paul Dukas spent his entire life in Paris as a greatly respected teacher and composer. He studied at the Paris Conservatory and was a close friend of fellow student Claude Debussy, whose influence is heard in much of Dukas' music. He was extremely critical of his own music to the point of destroying most of his works. Luckily, he kept what is now his best known composition, the symphonic scherzo *L'apprenti Sorcier* (The Sorcerer's Apprentice). He also came very close to destroying the manuscript of his ballet music *La Peri* (The Fairy). This was however rescued by his friends. Thus we can still enjoy this magnificent fanfare which was originally used as an opener for the ballet.

(note by the publisher)

Wine-Dark Sea / *John Mackey (b. 1973)*

After ten years of bloody seige, the Trojan War was won because of Odysseus' gambit: a horse full of soliders, disguised as an offering. The people of Troy took it in as a trophy, and were slaughtered.

I. Hubris

Odysseus filled his ship with the spoils of war, but he carried another, more dangerous cargo: pride. This movement opens with his triumphal march, and continues as he and his crew maraud through every port of call on their way home.

But the arrogance of a conquering mortal has one sure consequence in this world: a demonstration of that mortal's insignificance, courtesy of the gods. Odysseus offends; Zeus strikes down his ship. The sailors drown. Odysseus is shipwrecked. The sea takes them all.

II. Immortal thread, so weak

This movement is the song of the beautiful and immortal nymph Kalypso, who finds Odysseus near death, washed up on the shore of the island where she lives all alone. She nurses him back to health, and sings as she moves back and forth with a golden shuttle at her loom. Odysseus shares her bed; seven years pass. The tapestry she began when she nursed him becomes a record of their love.

But one day Odysseus remembers his home. He tells Kalypso he wants to leave her, to return to his wife and son. He scoffs at all she has given him. Kalypso is heartbroken. And yet, that night, Kalypso again paces at her loom. She unravels her tapestry and weaves it into a sail for Odysseus. In the morning, she shows Odysseus a raft, equipped with the sail she has made and stocked with bread and wine, and calls up a gentle and steady wind to carry him home. Shattered, she watches him go; he does not look back.

III. The attentions of souls

But other immortals are not finished with Odysseus yet. Before he can reach home, he must sail to the end of the earth, and make a sacrifice to the dead. And so, this movement takes place at the gates of the underworld, where it is always night.

When Odysseus cuts the throats of the sacrificial animals, the spirits of the dead swarm up. they cajole him, begging for blood. They accuse him, indicting him for his sins. They taunt him, mocking his inability to get home. The spirit of his own mother does not recognize him; he tries to touch her, but she is immaterial. He sees the ghosts of the great and the humble, all hungry, all grasping.

Finally, the prophet Teiresias tells Odysseus what he must do to get home. And so Odysseus passes through a gauntlet beyond the edge of the world, beset by the surging, shrieking souls of the dead. But in the darkness he can at last see the light of home ahead.

- John Mackey

PERSONNEL

Flute

Abigail DeKam
Platte, SD - Music Business & Industry (BA)

Shaylee Groves
Weirton, WV - Music Education (BM)

Marla Hopkins
Winfield, WV - Music Education (BM)

Hanna Noh*
South Korea - Music Performance (BM)

Oboe

Georgia Palmatory*
Morgantown, WV - Music (BA)

Bassoon

Adam Ferguson*
Charleston, WV - Music Education (BM)

Anderson Lee
Pittsburgh, PA - Music Education (BM)

Contrabassoon

Madison Cardenas
Mundelein, IL - Music Performance (DMA)

Clarinet

Natalie Alfera
New Castle, PA - Music Education (BM)

Kaylee Coleman
Buffalo, WV - Music Education (BM)

Gabriel Flanagan*
Morgantown, WV - Music Therapy (BM)

Sydni Miller*
Mansfield, PA - Music Performance (MM)

Tiara Simon
Dallas, TX - Music (BA) & Psychology (BA)

Savannah Wills
Camp Creek, WV - Music Education (BM)

Bass Clarinet

Jenna Carpenter
Wheeling, WV - Music Education (BM)

Alto Saxophone

Evan Barnette
Ripley, WV - Music Education (BM)

David Gutmann
Morgantown, WV - Music Education (BM)

Alexis Mason*
Waynesburg, PA - Music Performance (BM)

Tenor Saxophone

Claire Weydt
*Green Bay, WI - Musicology (MA) &
Music Performance (MM)*

Baritone Saxophone

Dillon Johnson
Winfield, WV - Music Education (BM)

Horn

Isaac Price
Paden City, WV - Music Education (MM)

Jacob Schear*
Leesburg, VA - Music Performance (BM)

Haley Smith
Fairfax, VA - Music Education (MM)

Aiden Swan
Alma, WV - Music Composition (BM)

Trumpet

Samara Chamberlain
Charleston, WV - Music (BA)

Garrett Materne
Buckhannon, WV - Music Education (BM)

Gordon Merriman*
Sewickly, PA - Music Education (BM)

Bethany Piercy
Harpers Ferry, WV - Criminology (BM)

Brandon Williams
Salisbury, MD - Music Education (BM)

Joshua Lugo Zambrano*
Chantilly, VA - Music Performance (BM)

Trombone

Max Davis*
Morgantown, WV - Music Performance (BM)

Evan Klimowich
TBA - Music Performance (BM)

Ian McIntyre
Shinnston, WV - Music Business & Industry (BA)

Bass Trombone

Jacob Thomas
TBA - Music Education (BM)

Euphonium

Ayden Jacobs-Endicott
Man, WV - Music Education (BM)

Zachary Tunick*
Fairfax, VA - Music Education (BM)

Tuba

Caleb Rowan
Mineral Wells, WV - Music Education (BM)

Evan Turner*
Hagerstown, MD - Music Education (BM)

Piano

Graham Sterling
Masontown, PA - Collaborative Piano (MM)

Harp

Brittany Blair
Morgantown, WV - WVU Professor of Harp

Percussion

Emily Arnett

Morgantown, WV - Music Composition (BM)

Sasha Bondarchuk

Eldersburg, MD - Music Education (BM)

Dylan Gore

Salisbury, MD - Music Education (BM)

James Kawasaki

Wheeling, WV - Music Performance (BM)

Braden Lloyd

Bethel Park, PA - Music Education (BM)

Jeremiah Rogers

Flemington, WV - Music Business & Industry (BA)

Paige Wallace

Wheeling, WV - Music (BA)

* - Principal



STUDIO FACULTY

Nina Assimakopoulos

Flute

Robert Sears

Trumpet

Cynthia Anderson

Oboe

Albert Houde

Horn

Andy Sledge

Bassoon

Hakeem Bilal

Trombone

Keeheon Nam

Clarinet

Carson McTeer

Euphonium/Tuba

Jeffery Siegfried

Saxophone

George Willis

Percussion

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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