



Wind Symphony

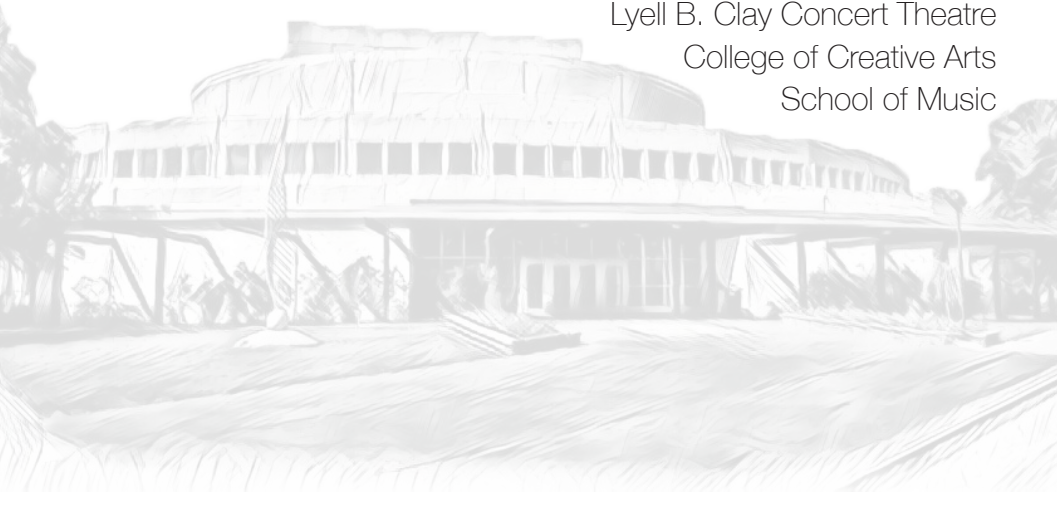
Scott C. Tobias, conductor
John Weigand, clarinet

Monday, April 22, 2024 • 7:30pm

Lyell B. Clay Concert Theatre

College of Creative Arts

School of Music



PROGRAM

WVU Wind Symphony

Scott C. Tobias, conductor

JESSICA MEYER
(b. 1974)

Go BIG or Go HOME

MICHAEL DAUGHERTY
(b. 1954)

Brooklyn Bridge

- I. EAST
- II. SOUTH
- III. WEST
- IV. NORTH

John Weigand, clarinet

ERIC WHITACRE
(b. 1970)

Godzilla Eats Las Vegas

Go BIG or Go HOME / *Jessica Meyer (b. 1974)*

This piece has been on quite a journey since its inception. The work was originally the last movement of “Get into the NOW”, a string quartet commissioned by the Grammy-nominated PUBLIQuartet in 2017. The first large ensemble version was for the Nu Deco Ensemble (a Rock Orchestra in Miami), followed by a full orchestra version that toured nationally for Carnegie Hall’s Link Up program. However, my inner band-geek self is the most excited about this version - which I feel unleashes all the sonic power I ever wanted this music to have.

In *Go BIG or Go HOME*, you will find hints of funk, bluegrass, and Latin while driven by groove, virtuosity, and moments of improvisation allowing members of the group to put their own personal signature on the piece. Most importantly, it is written from a place of self-realization, empowerment, and celebration of how joyous life can be.

- Jessica Meyer

Brooklyn Bridge / *Michael Daugherty (b. 1954)*

Brooklyn Bridge was commissioned by the International Clarinet Association with the assistance of the following College Band Directors National Association member institutions: the Universities of Arizona State, Columbus State, Florida State, Kentucky, Michigan, Sam Houston State, Texas Christian, Texas Tech, Towson, and Concordia College. The world premiere was given by the University of Michigan Symphony Band under the direction of Michael Haithcock, with Michael Wayne, solo clarinet, at Carnegie Hall in New York, New York, at the College Band Directors National Convention on February 25, 2005.

Designed by John Roebling (1806-1869), the Brooklyn Bridge endures as the most admired and best-loved bridge in New York City. After the opening of the bridge to the public in 1883, *Harper’s Monthly* reported, “The wise man will not cross the bridge in five minutes, nor in twenty. He will linger to get the good splendid view about him.” As I have lingered and walked across the Brooklyn Bridge over the years, the stunning vistas of the New York skyline have inspired me to compose a panoramic clarinet concerto.

Like the four cables of webs of wire and steel that hold the Brooklyn Bridge together, my ode to this cultural icon is divided into four movements. Each movement of the clarinet concerto is a musical view from the Brooklyn Bridge: I. East (Brooklyn and Brooklyn Heights); II. South (Statue of Liberty); III. West (Wall Street and the lower Manhattan skyline which was once dominated by the World Trade Towers); IV. North (Empire State Building, Chrysler Building and the Rockefeller Center). In the final movement of the concerto, I also imagine Artie Shaw, the great jazz swing clarinetist of the 1940’s, performing with his orchestra in the once glorious Rainbow Room on the sixty-fifth floor of the Rockefeller Center.

- Michael Daugherty

Godzilla Eats Las Vegas! / *Eric Whitacre (b. 1970)*

Composed in 1996, *Godzilla Eats Las Vegas!* was commissioned by the University of Nevada - Las Vegas, Thomas G. Leslie, conductor. The work serves as a musical soundtrack to a fictional, non-existent film featuring the classic movie monster Godzilla as he goes on a frolicing rampage through the title city. The story board for the film, provided by the composer, follows on the next pages.

PROGRAM NOTES

*** PART ONE ***

FADE UP

It is a bright and sunny day as the sequined curtain rises on tinsel town, and the excitement of a new day filled with the possibility of The Big Payoff is practically palpable. The band kicks off the show in high gear and all is well as we suddenly hear...

CUT TO DESERT

A lone shakuhachi flute ushers the arrival of something really VERY bad.

CUT BACK TO BAND

A relaxed rhumba, showgirls blissfully jiggle.

CUT TO MILITARY COMMAND CENTER (stock footage)

Morse code signals the confirmation of approaching doom.

CUT BACK TO BAND

The players finish off their third set and head for the bar; outside we hear...

SLOW ZOOM

Oh no, oh no, oh no, it's....

CLOSE UP

Godzilla! Glorious Godzilla!

VARIOUS QUICK CUTS (stock footage)

Godzilla detroys cars, screaming tourists, etc.

CUT BACK TO BAND

The band, quasi Greek Chorus, calls for Godzilla to Mambo.

GODZILLA, FULL FRAME

Godzilla mambos, casually crushing hysterical Las Vegans without missing a step.

EXTREME CLOSE UP

A tiny terrier barking bravely, then...

CUT BACK TO GODZILLA

Demolishing everything in his path...not even the doggie escapes!

WIDE PAN

As Godzilla heads down the strip, searching relentlessly for...

CLOSE UP (stock footage)

Frank Sinatra (stomped!)

CLOSE UP (stock footage)

Wayne Newton (stamped!)

CLOSE UP (stock footage)

Liberace (stepped upon!)

VARIOUS CUTS

The Village Gods destroyed, Godzilla continues his carnage until The City of Sin is leveled!

PROGRAM NOTES

*** PART TWO ***

FADE UP

A fearless army of Elvises (Elvi?) appear in the distance, formation marching through the littered streets

VARIOUS CLOSE UPS

The Elvi attack, using bombers, missiles, etc.

EXTREME CLOSE UP

One wicked laugh from Godzilla and the Elvi scatter like mice!

QUICK CUT (stock footage)

The Sphinx sits outside the Luxor, looking seductive in a Mae West sort of way.

CLOSE UP

Godzilla takes one look and his eyes pop out of his head.

QUICK CUTS

The Sphinx seduces the reptile, who instantly falls in love and begins to...

WIDE SHOT

Tango with her.

SPLIT SCREEN

As they dance, the Elvi slowly regroup and head for the...

QUICK CUT (stock footage)

Pirate ships at Treasure Island

ACTION SEQUENCE (MONTAGE)

The Elvi approach the dancing monster and launch a ferocious volley of cannonballs directly at him.

QUICK CLOSE UPS

The cannonballs find their mark, and Godzilla...

WIDE SHOT

Falls to the ground, annihilated. The Elvi are triumphant!

CROSSFADE

The lounge is open again, and the city of Las Vegas toasts the victory.
The scene climaxes with...

VARIOUS CUTS (stock footage)

People happy, tearful, etc. Stock footage, stock music.

SLOW FADE OUT AND FADE UP

A dark, ominous, and VERY familiar sound...

SLOW ZOOM

Godzilla lives! Godzilla lives! Complete terror (possible sequel?).

WIDE SHOT

The show is over. The End.

FADE TO BLACK

PERSONNEL

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)

Sydni 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

Dillon Johnson
Winfield, WV - Music Education (BM)

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

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)

Harp

Brittany Blair

Morgantown, WV - WVU Faculty

Piano

Ryan McWilliams

Perryopolis, PA - Music Composition (BM)

Graham Sterling

Masontown, PA - Collaborative Piano (MM)

Electric Guitar

Mikey Mullican

Taneytown, MD - Music Education (BM)

Electric Bass

Tytan Crowder

Charleston, WV - Music Education (BM) & Music Business & Industry (BS)

* - Principal

GUEST SOLOIST



John Weigand is Professor of Music at West Virginia University, where he teaches applied clarinet and conducts the WVU Chamber Winds. He performed part time in the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra for twenty-five seasons, playing principal, second and Eb clarinet. He has also played in the Cleveland Orchestra, the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, the North Carolina Symphony, the West Virginia Symphony and the Wheeling Symphony. He is a member of the Laureate Quintet in residence at WVU, and has collaborated with colleague James Miltenberger, Emeritus Professor of Piano at WVU, to perform in recital throughout the Eastern United States.

Dr. Weigand is an expert in the design and alteration of clarinet mouthpieces and has done mouthpiece alteration for clarinetists in major U.S. symphony orchestras. He is nationally renowned for clarinet reed-making, and teaches this skill to his WVU clarinet students and professional colleagues. His company, Precision Reed Products, produces the world renowned Reedual, as well as other products for making single reeds (www.precisionreedproducts.com)

Dr. Weigand holds degrees in music from The Florida State University, Northwestern University and The Oberlin Conservatory of Music, and his principal teachers include Robert Marcellus, Fred Ormand, Lawrence McDonald, Keith Stein, and Kent Krive.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

WEST VIRGINIA UNIVERSITY ADMINISTRATION

E. Gordon GeePresident
Maryanne ReedVice-President & Provost
Keith Jackson.....Dean, College of Creative Arts
Mikylah Myers.....Associate Dean, College of Creative Arts
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 Band Concert.....April 23, 7:30 pm

WVU BANDS

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

WVU BANDS OFFICE

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