

University Wind Ensemble

Sunday, May 5, 2024 at 3pm
Lagerquist Concert Hall, Mary Baker Russell Music Center

Pacific Lutheran University
The College of Professional Studies and School of Music, Theatre & Dance present

University Wind Ensemble

Ron Gerhardstein, *conductor*

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Welcome to Lagerquist Concert Hall.
Please disable the audible signal on all watches and cellular phones for the duration of the concert.
Use of cameras, recording equipment and all digital devices is not permitted in the concert hall.

PROGRAM

Esprit de Corps **Robert Jager (b. 1939)**

Bugs **Roger Cichy (b. 1956)**

Prelude
Dragonfly
Praying Mantis
Black Widow Spider
Tiger Swallowtail
Army Ants

Safely Rest..... **Nicole Piunno (b. 1985)**

Three Latin American Dances **Giovanni Santos (b. 1980)**

La Moto – Dominican Republic
Lamento Cubano – Cuba
El Zape – Mexico

The Cowboys **John Williams (b. 1932)**
arr. Jim Curnow

Program Notes

Esprit de Corps was commissioned by the United States President's Own Marine Corps Band from the prolific band composer Robert Jager. The composition is the composers salute to the Marine Corps band and loosely based on *The Marines' Hymn*. The work is full of energy and gusto before transitioning to a poignant lyrical middle section followed by a quasi-waltz with hints of syncopation and mixed meter. The work concludes with intensity similar to the opening fanfare.

Bugs is Roger Cichy's musical journey in six movements exploring sounds and thematic material associated with a suite of insects that is at times comical, dramatic, or poignant. "Prelude" is a nod to all creatures that we associate as bugs. The listener will hear a trio of moths fluttering in the bright lights on a summer's day as well as the writhing of worms. "Dragonfly" is both powerful and haunting reminiscent of the folklore surrounding the aquatic insect that emerges from the water as an adult to search for and sew shut the mouths of fibbing children. "Praying Mantis", as we might expect, is peaceful and prayerlike. The eight-note pattern of the fourth movement forms the blues riff for the "Black Widow Spider". The movement builds momentum like layered blues riffs in a Count Basie jazz composition until the spider reaches its prey with deadly venom. The fifth movement, is a nod and tribute to all butterflies but in particular the "Tiger Swallowtail" – often referred to as the "flying flower." The final movement, "Army Ants", is a march of course yet with a playful sense of humor.

Nicole Piunno holds a Doctor of Musical Arts degree in composition and a Master of Music degree in music theory pedagogy at Michigan State University. Piunno's music composition mentors include Ricardo Lorenz, Charles Ruggiero, and David Gillingham. *Safely Rest* combines and weaves the melodies of *Amazing Grace* and *Taps* as a single unit. The composition can serve as a touching tribute to our lost love ones, a spiritual reminder and reflection for people of any faith tradition, or simply as a moment to appreciate the beauty in music.

American composer Giovanni Santos often fuses sounds, rhythms, and grooves from his familial and cultural background of Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Puerto Rico, and California into his music. *Three Latin American Dances* is a wonderful and creative example featuring a soundscape reminiscent of these locations and musical culture.

"The first movement represents the busy streets of the Dominican Republic, specifically, the city of San Cristobal where I spent many days with my grandparents. The many sounds represent the zooming, honking, and busy lifestyles of the Dominican people. The music also represents the beautiful night skies (last measures of the glockenspiel) and kids playing, waiting for their parents to get home.

The second movement is quite emotional to me. My Cuban family had to leave Cuba as political refugees, escaping the horrors of communism and poverty. The movement is slow in nature, heavy in emotion, and contemplative. My grandfather used to sing one of his favorite hymns to me quite frequently. It was important to me to include hints of *It is Well* in this movement. During the editing process of this work, my family lost my grandmother. This movement is dedicated to her, Onelia. *Rest in Peace, Abuelita*.

The third movement is composed in the style of a Mexican Huapango. A fun, dance-like cultural party full of festive expression. This movement is dedicated to my wife's family."

– Program notes taken from the score

There is no better way to close out the academic year, pay tribute to our graduating seniors, and head off into the sunset (so to speak) of summer adventure, rest, and renewal than through the music of John Williams. Of course, we know the prolific composer best through his film scores and numerous awards, including, five Oscars, three Emmys, four Golden Globes, and 26 Grammy Awards. National and International awards include the Kennedy Center Honors (2004), National Medal of Freedom in the Arts (2009), and an Honorary Knight Commander of the Order of the British Empire by Queen Elizabeth II (2022) for "services to film music."

The Cowboys, arranged by Jim Curnow, is a typical example of John Williams' 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* starring John Wayne and Roscoe Lee Browne, 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 high spirit of wild horses, the loneliness of the open range, and the hard work of the cattle drive.

– Additional program notes adapted from California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo, Wind Ensemble concert program, 28 February 2015

About the Conductor

Ron Gerhardstein is the Interim Director of Bands and Associate Professor of Music Education at Pacific Lutheran University. Dr. Gerhardstein has enjoyed a long career as a music educator in public school and collegiate settings. At PLU, he currently directs the Wind Ensemble and the University Concert Band and he teaches coursework in the music education curriculum, including: Band Repertoire and Rehearsal, Woodwind Labs I/II, Percussion Lab, Music and Culture, PLUS 100: Transitions to PLU, and he assists with the supervision of student teachers.

Dr. Gerhardstein earned a Ph.D. in music education from Temple University where he studied with Edwin Gordon and Beth Bolton. He also attended the University of Idaho, earning a Bachelor's degree in music education, and a Masters of Music (saxophone performance) studying with Robert Miller.

Dr. Gerhardstein is a frequent workshop clinician, guest conductor, and festival adjudicator. Prior to coming to PLU in 2014, he was the band director at West Valley High School in Yakima where his band program had a reputation for excellence in all areas (Concert Band, Jazz Band, and Marching Band). He has proudly served as an honor band conductor on several occasions, most notably the 2019 APAC Honor Band in Kobe, Japan, and the 2017 WMEA Junior All-State "Rainier" Band.

A passionate advocate for music education, Ron is an active member of WMEA, currently serving a two-year term as WMEA President. In addition, he serves on the Washington Interscholastic Activities Association (WIAA) as the honorary board member for the Fine Arts. Dr. Gerhardstein makes his home in Tacoma with his wife, Jerilyn, an elementary teacher librarian in the Bethel School District.

2023-2024 Pacific Lutheran University Wind Ensemble

<u>Flute</u> *Ellen Coburn, 25 Carina Collier, 24 Ryan Fisher, 24 Eli Lockhart, 25 Katie Nii, 27 Michelle Owen, 26	<i>Music Arts</i> <i>Music Composition</i> <i>Biology</i> <i>Music Education</i> <i>Nursing</i> <i>Creative Writing/ Gender Studies</i>	<u>French Horn</u> *Benjamin Birmingham, 24 Ben Coats, 26 James Gibson, 26 Ashley Lopez Mora, 26 Rosalyn Tobeck, 25	<i>Music Performance</i> <i>Music Composition</i> <i>Music Performance/ Music Composition</i> <i>Political Science/ Hispanic Studies</i> <i>Music Education</i>
<u>Oboe</u> Sophia Pancoast, 27 *Jayden White, 26	<i>Biology</i> <i>Music Education</i>	<u>Trumpet</u> Devin Bianchi-Rivera, 25 Connor Kaczkowski, 25 Ivan Khrystychenko, 25 Brandon Liukkonen, 25 *Jess Mason, 25	<i>Music Performance</i> <i>Music Performance/ Music Composition</i> <i>Biology</i> <i>Music Education</i> <i>Music Education/ Music Performance</i>
<u>Bassoon</u> *Adam Johnson, 25 Grace Karns, 25 Sydney Thayer-O'Brien, 27	<i>Music Education</i> <i>Criminal Justice</i> <i>Music Education</i>	<u>Trombone</u> Josh Green, 27 Alana Henerlau, 25 Sabien Kinchlow- McConnaughey, 26 *Sarah Zundel, 25	<i>Music Education</i> <i>Business Administration</i> <i>Music Education/ Music Performance</i> <i>Music Education</i>
<u>Clarinet</u> *Caitlin Collins, 25 Matthew Helmer, 25 Andrew Lee, 26 Sophia Ramos, 25	<i>Music Education</i> <i>Mathematics/Physics</i> <i>Computer Science/ Applied Math</i> <i>Music Education</i>	<u>Euphonium</u> Joseph Middleton, 25 *Cody Nutter, 26	<i>International Politics</i> <i>Computer Science</i>
<u>Bass Clarinet</u> Curtis Ganung, 24	<i>Computer Science/ Nordic Studies</i>	<u>Tuba</u> *Cassidy Stanhope, 26	<i>Music Performance</i>
<u>Alto Saxophone</u> Conor Beach, 27 Kyrsten Campbell, 25	<i>Music Education</i> <i>Music Performance</i>	<u>String Bass</u> *Taya Lovejoy, 25 Campian Roberts, 25	<i>BFA Acting/Directing</i> <i>Music Performance</i>
<u>Tenor Saxophone</u> Marie Morgan, 24	<i>Music Education</i>	<u>Percussion</u> Kyle Gough, 26 Ben Helgeson, 25 Evan Nakanishi, 26 Drew Sims, 25 *Cole Strichertz, 25	<i>Music Performance</i> <i>Physics/Chinese Studies</i> <i>Music Performance</i> <i>Electrical Engineering</i> <i>Music Performance</i>
<u>Baritone Saxophone</u> Aidan Hille, 25	<i>Music Education</i>	<u>Piano</u> Iris Lee, 27 Anna Tangedahl, 26 *Section leader	<i>Music Education</i> <i>Music Performance</i>

Spring Events

at Pacific Lutheran University

ALL MUSIC EVENTS ARE IN MARY BAKER RUSSELL MUSIC CENTER, LAGERQUIST CONCERT HALL AT 8PM UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.

FEBRUARY

22 Thursday, 7:30pm
Choir of the West Tour Homecoming Concert

MARCH

2 Saturday, 2pm
Guitar Orchestra & Guitar Ensemble, free admission

2 Saturday, 5pm
Artist Series: Guitar Faculty Recital, free admission

3 Sunday
Pacific NW Trombone Symposium 2024, Mary Baker Russell Music Center

7 Thursday, 7:30pm
The Concordia Choir in Concert at PLU. Tickets: \$25, purchased through the Concordia Choir only at their website: <https://www.concordiacollege.edu/student-life/music-ensembles/choirs/the-concordia-choir/> or at the door

8 Friday, 3:30pm
Joshua Conyers Voice Masterclass. Ness Chapel, free admission

10 Sunday, 3pm
PLU Flute Studio presents Music of the Paris Conservatory, free admission

12 Tuesday, 7:30pm
University Symphony Orchestra: Student Showcase

15 Friday, 7:30pm
Choral Union

16 Saturday, 1pm
Rhythm Celebration concert, free admission

17 Sunday, 3pm
University Wind Ensemble

19 Tuesday, 7:30pm
Eric Marienthal with the Pacific Lutheran University Jazz Ensemble
Eastvold Auditorium, Karen Hille Phillips Center

APRIL

7 Sunday, 3pm
Artist Series: Jennifer Rhyne, Flute & Elizabeth Landis, Harp, free admission

12 Friday, 7:30pm
Mary Jensen Flute Masterclass, free admission

17 Wednesday, 6pm
Leelanee Sterrett Horn Masterclass, free admission

17 Wednesday, 7:30pm
Keyboard Students Recital, free admission

21 Sunday, 3pm
Second City Chamber Series: Andrew Sords and Friend. Tickets: \$35, purchased through Second City Chamber Series only, by phone at 253-572-8863 or at their website: www.scchamberseries.org

21 Sunday, 5:30pm
Andrew Sords Violin Masterclass, free admission

23 Tuesday, 7:30pm
Choir of the West

24 Wednesday, 7:30pm
Percussion Ensemble, free admission

25 Thursday, 7:30pm
University Chorale

26 Friday, 7:30pm
Steel Band, free admission

28 Sunday, 7:30pm
University Singers & Knights Chorus

MAY

3 Friday, 3:30pm
Christine Goerke Voice Masterclass. Jennie Lee Hansen Recital Hall, free admission

3 Friday, 7:30pm
Sølvvinden Flute Ensemble, free admission

MAY, Cont.

4 Saturday, 7:30pm
Guitar Orchestra & Guitar Ensemble, free admission

5 Sunday, 3pm
University Wind Ensemble

7 Tuesday, 5:30pm
Saxophone Quartets & Jazz Combos. The Cave, Anderson University Center, free admission

7 Tuesday, 7:30pm
Regency Commission Premieres Concert, free admission

8 Wednesday, 7:30pm
Piano Ensemble, free admission

9-11 Thursday-Saturday, 7:30pm; and 12 Sunday, 3pm
H.M.S. Pinafore by Gilbert and Sullivan. Eastvold Auditorium, Karen Hille Phillips Center

11 Saturday, 3pm
Woodwind Students Recital, free admission

11 Saturday, 4:30pm
Brass Students Recital, free admission

13 Monday, 7:30pm
PLU Ringers, free admission

14 Tuesday, 7:30pm
University Concert Band

15 Wednesday, 7:30pm
University Jazz Ensemble. Eastvold Auditorium, Karen Hille Phillips Center

16 Thursday, 6pm
Chamber Music Kaleidoscope, free admission

16 Thursday, 7:30pm
String Kaleidoscope, free admission

18 Saturday, 2:30pm
PLUtonic/Gold Rush. MBR Amphitheater, free admission

18 Saturday, 5pm
Natalia Parmly, Piano - Forestine Wise Monsen Scholarship Recital, free admission

19 Sunday, 3pm
Choral Union

19 Sunday, 7:30pm
Composers Forum, free admission

To Order Tickets:

On Line: www.plu.edu/music/tickets

At the Concert: Lobby Desk in Mary Baker Russell Music Center or Karen Hille Phillips Center (depending on performance location)

CONCERTS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE
All ticket sales are final - no refunds

MUSIC EVENT TICKET PRICES: \$16 GENERAL PUBLIC; \$12 PLU FACULTY/STAFF, ALUMNI, MILITARY, SENIORS (60); \$8 IMMEDIATE FAMILY OF PERFORMERS, PATRONS UNDER 18; FREE TO PLU STUDENTS WITH STUDENT ID. CONCERTS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE AND SOME CONCERTS MAY BE ADDED AFTER PUBLICATION. www.plu.edu/music/calendar (updated March 11, 2024)