

University Wind Ensemble

Sunday, October 5, 2025 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*

Sunday, October 5, 2025 at 3pm
Lagerquist Concert Hall, Mary Baker Russell Music Center

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

- Sun Dance (1997).....Frank Ticheli**
- Scenes from the Louvre Norman Dello Joio (1913-2008)**
I. The Portals
II. Children's Gallery
III. The Kings of France
IV. The Nativity Paintings
V. Finale
- Elegy for Albinoni (2011) Shelley Hanson**
- Water: A Meditation on Saitara Bushi (2024)..... Gregory Youtz and Miho Takekawa**
- Overture from Dancer in the Dark (2000).....Björk Guðmundsdóttir**
arr. Henry L. Dorn
- City Trees (2012)..... Michael Markowski**

Program Notes

Sun Dance was composed in 1997 on commission from the Austin Independent School District to celebrate the 25th Anniversary of the All-City Band Festival. Ticheli shares in the score that he attempted to evoke a feeling of bright joy. Other imagery includes a bustling town festival on a warm, sun-washed day. Throughout the composition process, the composer balances the song-like and dance-like components of “bright joy.” The oboe’s gentle statement of the main melody establishes the work’s song-like characteristic, while the dance-like quality is brought to life by a syncopated rhythmic figure that appears throughout the composition.

Scenes from The Louvre comes from music material in a 1964 television documentary produced by NBC News titled *A Golden Prison: The Louvre*, for which Dello Joio provided the soundtrack. The documentary tells the history of the Louvre and its world-class collection of art. The composer chose to use the music of Renaissance-era composers in his soundtrack in order to match the historical depth of the film. He collected the highlights of this Emmy-winning score into a five-movement suite for band in 1965. The first movement, *Portals*, is the title music from the documentary and it consists entirely of Dello Joio’s original materials, complete with strident rhythms and bold 20th-century harmony. The second movement, *Children’s Gallery*, never actually appears in the film. It is a light-hearted theme and variations of Tielman Susato’s *Ronde et Saltarelle*. The stately third movement is based on themes by Louis XIV’s court composer, Jean-Baptiste Lully, and is aptly titled *The Kings of France*. Movement four, *The Nativity Paintings*, uses the medieval theme *In Dulci Jubilo*. The *Finale* uses the *Cestilliche Sonata* of Vincenzo Alrici as its source material, to which Dello Joio adds his own harmonic flavor, particularly in the final passages of the piece.

– program notes taken from the Wind Repertoire Project, Ohlone Wind Orchestra (Fremont, CA)

Elegy for Albinoni is a memorial piece in honor of the prolific but now rarely performed Baroque-era composer Tomaso Albinoni (1671-1751). After an opening theme which sets the ultra-romantic tone of this piece, the second theme is based on rhythmically and harmonically altered versions of a few measures of one of Albinoni’s violin sonatas. The two themes are used in alternation, in fragments, or simultaneously throughout the piece. Albinoni’s music was admired by one of the greatest composers of his time, J.S. Bach. Though Albinoni was fourteen years older than Bach, he outlived him, perhaps partially because, as the independently wealthy son of a paper merchant, Albinoni never struggled financially. Bach used some of Albinoni’s bass lines as examples in his teaching as well as using some of his themes as the basis for his own works. *Elegy* was originally commissioned for string orchestra in 2008 by the Breck School (MN) in honor of Claudette Laureano, recipient of the Jean Wigley Award for Outstanding Teaching. In addition to this arrangement for band, the composition has also been adapted for full orchestra.

– notes taken from the Composer’s score

Water is based on a traditional Japanese fishing song “Saitara Bushi” from the area of Sendai that was devastated by the earthquake and tsunami in 2011. Using mutes, extended techniques, and percussion based on Japanese instruments and musical traditions, the piece meditates on aspects of water as both the giver and the taker of life. At the beginning we hear waves on a beach. Then the tinkling of a “suikinkutsu” a Japanese garden water feature. Then the fishing tune enters and fragments of it coalesce and build to a climax with sirens warning of tsunami.

Winner of the Cannes Film Festival’s *Palme d’Or* (Best Featured Film) in 2000, *Dancer in the Dark* is a genre-defying cinematic creation, incorporating elements of melodrama, documentary, musical, and experimental film, shot in the manner of *cinéma vérité*. The audience is made to feel as though they are a participant, rather than an observer, in the tumultuous and descending trajectory of the main character, Selma (played by Björk). Original music from the Icelandic pop artist Björk, ***Overture to Dancer in the Dark*** is composed for brass ensemble and in this arrangement by Henry L. Dorn (Director of Bands – St. Olaf College), with the addition of timpani. The work is a poignant and melancholic, reminiscent of themes in the film. While the composition has enjoyed many performances by wind bands in concert settings, it is perhaps made even more famous by the many arrangements of the work for drum and bugle corps since the 2002 premiere by the Bluecoats (Canton, OH).

– adapted from The Wind Band Repertoire, program notes

I had just moved from Arizona to New York City when I began sketching the first fragments of *City Trees*. After being born, growing up, and living in the desert for 25 years of my life, moving to New York so suddenly was and continues to be one of the most challenging things I've ever done. I think it has also been one of the bravest. I left my friends, my family, and my ridiculously cheap rent all without much planning. Every time I walk down a street in New York, I notice the trees shackled by the sidewalk. Some have little fences around them, many have trash nestled up next to their exposed roots, and others have grown so big and become so strong that they have broken right through the concrete pavement. As I pass beneath them, they all seem to wave their leafy pom-poms in the wind, a thousand leaves applauding, cheering me on as if I had just returned from the moon. These trees have learned how to brave the concrete jungle, and it gave me solace knowing that they had flourished in such a challenging environment. Over time, the impossibilities of the city have become familiar, and although I continue to learn new lessons every day, I've slowly begun to assimilate, finding my way around, discovering new places, and making friends while still keeping close with those who aren't close by. The music in *City Trees* began to take on a growing sense of perseverance, embodied by the expansive melodies that sweep over the pensive, rhythmic undercurrent. For me, *City Trees* is a reflection of the bravery that it often takes to venture into new worlds, embrace other cultures, and lovingly encourage new ideas. I am deeply honored to dedicate this piece to the Lesbian and Gay Band Association. Although I may never completely understand the unique challenges my friends have faced and had to overcome, I am inspired by the overwhelming courage that has been so firmly planted for 30 years and that continues to grow, perhaps slowly, but always stronger.

– notes by the composer, Michael Markowski

About the Conductor

Ron Gerhardstein is the Director of Bands and Associate Professor of Music at Pacific Lutheran University. Dr. Gerhardstein has enjoyed a long career as a music educator in public school and collegiate settings. At PLU, he directs the Wind Ensemble and he teaches coursework in the music education curriculum, including: Band Repertoire and Rehearsal, Woodwind Labs I/II, Percussion Lab, Music and Culture, and PLUS 100: Transitions to PLU. Dr. Gerhardstein also serves as manager and director of the PLU-NW Highschool Honor Bands and the PLU Band Invitational. 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 in 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 as the Past-President. Dr. Gerhardstein makes his home in Tacoma with his wife, Jerilyn, an elementary teacher librarian in the Bethel School District.

About the Composer

Gregory Youtz received his doctorate in music composition from the University of Michigan. His compositions include three operas, two symphonies, an oratorio, and numerous other works for orchestra, wind ensemble, choir, solo voice, and various chamber ensembles. Youtz has done music research in China and Trinidad and enjoys drawing compositional ideas from those rich traditions. A native Northwesterner, he is Professor of Music emeritus at Pacific Lutheran University in Tacoma, Washington where he taught composition, theory, history, and courses in world music.

2025-2026 Pacific Lutheran University Wind Ensemble

Flute

Heta Honanie
Iris Lee
Kade Levien*
Michelle Owen
Annalise Sackreiter

Oboe/English Horn

Sara Atwood
Jayden White*

Bassoon

Grace Karns
Angel Rodriguez Gil
Syd Thayer-O'Brien*

Clarinet

Meaghan Austin*
Katelyn Hight
Riley Judd
Andrew Lee
Alena Kwon

Bass Clarinet

Abigail Caprye

Alto Sax

Conor Beach*
Lucas Chabaud

Tenor Sax

Lawrence Balajadia

Baritone Sax

Steven Blankenship

Horn

Ben Coats*
James Gibson*
Cameron Holden
Ashley Lopez Mora
Micaiah Tinkler

Trumpet

Devin Bianchi-Rivera*
Gaje Dequis
Allison Howes
Sylvie Manz
Justin Mendoza
Elizabeth Williams

Trombone

Lola Chargualaf
Sabien Kinchlow-McConnaughey*
Max Minjares
Jaden Pulido-Highes

Euphonium

Josh Green
Cody Nutter

Tuba

Preston Hill
Cassidy Stanhope*

Double Bass

Kindra Gonsalves

Percussion

Laura Bahrt
Kyle Gough
Ben Hegge
Evan Nakanishi*
Adrian Ragil
Ronin Schoolcraft

Piano

Iris Lee

Harp

Sarah Harker

*Section Leader

SEPTEMBER

- 21 Sunday, 3pm**
Faculty Recital: Erik Steighner, Saxophone & Oksana Ejokina,
Piano, free admission
- 28 Sunday, 3pm**
Richard D. Moe Organ Recital Series: Angela Kraft Cross, Organist

OCTOBER

- 5 Sunday, 3pm**
University Wind Ensemble
- 14 Tuesday and 15 Wednesday, 7:30pm**
Fall Festival of Choirs
- 18 Saturday, 5pm**
PLU Faculty Brass Showcase
- 21 Tuesday, 7:30pm**
University Symphony Orchestra
- 24 Friday, 12pm**
Orchestra Festival concert, free admission
- 25 Saturday**
NATS Artist Awards competition
- 26 Sunday, 3pm**
South Sound Saxophone Ensemble, free admission
- 28 Tuesday, 7:30pm**
Faculty Recital: Danielle Lemieux, Horn & Amy Boers, Piano, free admission
- 31 Friday, 7:30pm**
PLU Symphonic Band, free admission

NOVEMBER

- 2 Sunday, 3pm**
Angela Meade Vocal Competition, free admission
- 2 Sunday, 7:30pm**
Guest Artist Recital: Randall Scarlatta, Baritone & Gilbert Kalish,
Piano, free admission
- 5 Wednesday, 7:30pm**
Keyboard Students Recital, free admission
- 8 Saturday, 12:30pm**
Wendy Wilhelmi Flute Masterclass, free admission
- 9 Sunday, 3pm**
Richard D. Moe Organ Recital Series: Julia Brown, Organist
- 12 Wednesday, 7:30pm**
Early Music Concert, free admission
- 15 Saturday, 3pm**
Woodwind Students Recital, free admission
- 15 Saturday, 4:30pm**
Brass Students Recital, free admission
- 16 Sunday, 3pm**
University Wind Ensemble
- 16 Sunday, 7:30pm**
Steel Band, free admission
- 18 Tuesday, 7:30pm**
University Concert Band
- 19 Wednesday, 7:30pm**
Piano Ensemble, free admission
- 20 Thursday, 7:30pm**
Percussion Ensemble, free admission
- 21-22 Friday-Saturday, 7:30pm**
Opera Scenes. Eastvold Auditorium, Karen Hille Phillips Center
- 22 Saturday, 12pm**
Sølvvinden Flute Ensemble, free admission
- 23 Sunday, 12pm**
Guitar Orchestra & Guitar Ensemble, free admission
- 23 Sunday, 3pm**
Choral Union
- 23 Sunday, 6pm**
Chamber Music Kaleidoscope, free admission

NOVEMBER, Cont.

- 23 Sunday, 7:30pm**
String Kaleidoscope, free admission
- 23 Sunday, 7:30pm**
String Kaleidoscope, free admission
- 24 Monday, 7:30pm**
University Jazz Ensemble. Eastvold Auditorium, Karen Hille Phillips Center

DECEMBER

All Shall Be Well, A PLU Christmas Concert

Tickets go on sale Tuesday, November 4

Friday, December 5, at 7:30pm - Lagerquist Concert Hall

Saturday, December 6, at 2pm - Lagerquist Concert Hall

Saturday, December 6, at 7:30pm - Lagerquist Concert Hall

Sunday, December 7, at 2pm - Lagerquist Concert Hall

Monday, December 8, at 7:30pm - Benaroya Hall, Seattle

- 2 Tuesday, 6pm**
Saxophone Quartets & Jazz Combos. The Cave, Anderson University Center, free admission
- 3 Wednesday, 7:30pm**
Sounds of Christmas, featuring University Singers and Knights Chorus

JANUARY

- 10 Saturday, 4:30 and 6:30pm**
Northwest High School Honor Band, free admission
- 18 Sunday, 6pm**
PLU Honor Orchestra for Strings, free admission
- 25 Sunday**
South Sound Flute Day, Mary Baker Russell Music Center

To view more detailed event information, please visit:

www.plu.edu/music/calendar (Updated September 15, 2025)