

**University Symphony Orchestra Reunion Concert**  
*Transitions*

Sunday, May 21, 2023 at 3pm  
Lagerquist Concert Hall, Mary Baker Russell Music Center

Pacific Lutheran University  
College of Professional Studies / Department of Music presents

# University Symphony Orchestra Reunion Concert

## *Transitions*

Pacific Lutheran University Symphony Orchestra  
with PLUSO Alumni  
& KammerMusikeren  
with a Tour Preview  
Jeffrey Bell-Hanson & Jerry Kracht, *conductors*

Sunday, May 21, 2023 at 3pm  
Lagerquist Concert Hall, Mary Baker Russell Music Center

Welcome, in person and virtually, to Lagerquist Concert Hall for our PLUSO Reunion Concert, the first in a long time. Today we celebrate more than fifty years of PLUSO history, and the tenures of two of its long-serving conductors, Dr. Jerry Kracht and Dr. Jeffrey Bell-Hanson. We will also preview some of the music that KammerMusikeren, the PLUSO chamber orchestra, will perform in Ireland in June, and we will honor and bid farewell to our seniors.

### PROGRAM

#### KammerMusikeren

Oblivion.....Astor Piazzolla (1921-1992)  
arr. Robert Longfield

Jason Parshall, *soprano saxophone*

Ephemera.....Gregory Youtz (b. 1956)  
*World Premiere*

Symphony in E Minor, op. 32 (“Gaelic”).....Amy Beach (1867-1944)  
*III. Lento con molto espressione*

#### Recognition of 2023 Seniors and Students Teachers

Marley Cochran, Joy Han, Henry Hossner, Madelynne Jones, Noatak Post,  
Naomi Southard, Brooklyn-Sudnikovich-Eddy, Aleia Truman, and Marilyn Willis

### INTERMISSION

#### PLUSO and Alumni

“Hoe Down”.....Aaron Copland (1900-1990)  
from *Rodeo*

Remarks by Dr. Jerry Kracht

**Symphony No. 9 in E Minor, op. 91 (“From the New World”) .....Antonín Dvořák (1841-1904)**  
*I. Adagio—Allegro molto*

**Variations on an Original Theme (“Enigma”) ..... Edward Elgar (1857-1934)**  
*Var. IX: “Nimrod”*

**Remarks by Dr. Jeffrey Bell-Hanson**

**Symphony No. 8, op. 88 ..... Antonín Dvořák**  
*IV. Allegro ma non troppo*

**Processional of Joy ..... Lawrence Meyer (1928-1996)**

### **Program Notes**

Like many of you in the audience, I often need a way to unwind at night before I go to sleep, and I usually find the late-night talk shows on television to be an easy way to do that. One of my favorites in recent years frequently features two monologues, one that is carefully constructed around a central theme, usually an acerbic commentary on some item in the news of the day. By contrast, the other seems to be a repository for the leftover tidbits swept up from the writer’s room floor, a mélange of disparate, but individually interesting elements called “Meanwhile.”

You will hear this afternoon from my colleague, Dr. Kracht, about the value our mentor, James Dixon, placed on communicating with the audience through his carefully crafted programs. Dr. Kracht, like Maestro Dixon, also meticulously planned his concerts considering musical, thematic, and programmatic relationships to create eloquent orchestral statements for the benefit of this community. That crafted eloquence has long been my aspiration as well, but I have come to realize at the end of my career, that my real specialty is more along the lines of “Meanwhile.”

We have several needs to fulfill with this program today. KammerMusikeren, the name we give to the touring chamber orchestra drawn from the ranks of the PLUSO, will preview part of their repertoire for an upcoming tour in Ireland in early June. That preview includes the premiere of a new and delightful work by Dr. Gregory Youtz, *Ephemera*. We are also closing the 2022-2023 season for the full PLUSO, and the end of my tenure as conductor of this orchestra. We will recognize our outgoing seniors and those who will leave us to student teach in the fall. Finally, we are celebrating over half a century of the history of the ensemble as we welcome back many alumni, and Conductor Emeritus, Dr. Jerry Kracht.

My hope is that what this program lacks in thematic or musical coherence will be forgiven. We have a lot of boxes to check today, but I believe we will do it with élan and with an obvious joy that can only come from the real significance of orchestral music—that we do it together, as a community.

– Dr. Jeffrey Bell-Hanson

**Ephemera by Dr. Gregory Youtz (*World Premiere*)**

Ephemera are things of no great significance, things produced for a short-term function, and then probably discarded. Tickets, napkins, notices, certain pieces of fashionable clothing...After writing a series of alarmingly serious operas, the composer decided to write something seemingly ephemeral, full of gestures that seem to imply import, that strut and fret upon the stage – and then vanish again just as quickly as they appeared.

### **About the Composer**

**Gregory Youtz’s** compositions include works for orchestra, band, choir, voice and chamber ensembles, and three operas including the 1991 *Songs from the Cedar House* about Native American-White interaction in the Puget Sound region, 2016’s *Fiery Jade-Cai Yan*, (libretto by Zhang Er) based upon the life of a historical Han Dynasty Chinese woman and 2021’s *Tacoma Method* (libretto by Zhang Er) about the expulsion of the Chinese from Tacoma in 1885. A member of the Pacific Lutheran University Chinese Studies Program for many years, Youtz has done research on Chinese music,

instruments, and the use of Chinese musical techniques applied to western instruments, and has a list of compositions based upon Chinese ideas, from poetry and painting to history and philosophy. Other pieces stem from his research into music from Trinidad and Tobago and Indonesia.

### **About the Conductors**

**Jeffrey Bell-Hanson** is in his twenty-first and final season as Music Director of the PLU Symphony Orchestra and Professor of Music. He is a familiar presence in the Pacific Northwest as a conductor, clinician, adjudicator and orchestral educator. Each year he works with school orchestras at all levels throughout the region and beyond, bringing to them the perspective of his long career as a conductor and scholar. He is a past national president of the College Orchestra Directors Association.

Dr. Bell-Hanson has conducted orchestras and wind ensembles throughout the United States and in Bulgaria and the Czech Republic, including the West Bohemian Symphony Orchestra, the Olympia Symphony, the Marquette Symphony Orchestra, the Vratza Philharmonic, and the Philharmonia Bulgarica. His long career on the podium and as a teacher has also included faculty appointments in Kansas, Louisiana and Michigan, where he won recognition for excellence in teaching both from Michigan Technological University and the State of Michigan. He has served as music director of both the Hutchinson Symphony Orchestra in Kansas and, for fourteen years, the Keweenaw Symphony Orchestra in Michigan. Dr. Bell-Hanson will retire at the end of the 2022-2023 academic year.

**Jerry Kracht** (b. 1941) is emeritus professor of music at PLU in Tacoma, Washington where he conducted the University Symphony Orchestra for thirty-three years, encompassing over 300 concerts, nearly 500 works by some 150 composers, and an estimated 500 orchestra students. He also taught clarinet and was a founding member of the Camas Wind Quintet and the Regency Concert Series there. In addition, he served for twenty-five years as artistic director and principal clarinetist of the Second City Chamber Series in Tacoma. Since retiring from those positions in 2001 and 2007, respectively, he has concentrated on composing and arranging, with original works for band, orchestra, choir, and various chamber ensembles now to his credit, along with numerous chamber ensemble arrangements and transcriptions. His music has been performed in Tacoma, Seattle, Portland, Chicago and, most recently, in New York City's Carnegie Hall. PLU ensembles have premiered six of his pieces over the years and the University Symphony Orchestra has taken his music on tour to Portugal and Spain. In addition, their tour of Ireland this spring will include one of his works. Originally from Iowa, he attended the University of Iowa where he earned Bachelor of Music and Master of Arts degrees in clarinet performance and a Doctor of Musical Arts degree in orchestral conducting. His teachers there included Thomas Ayers (clarinet) and James Dixon (conducting). He now resides in Sammamish, Washington.

# Pacific Lutheran University Orchestra

Jeffrey Bell-Hanson, *conductor*

## Flute

Blake Leahy\*  
Eva Reutercrona  
Katherine Gunter  
Kade Levien

## Oboe/English horn

Ainsley Fuerst\*

## Clarinet

Caitlin Collins\*  
Brooklyn Sudnikovich-Eddy  
Curtis Ganung, *bass clarinet*

## Bassoon

Tyler Woo\*  
Rorie Millward\*  
Adam Johnson

## Horn

Ben Birmingham\*  
James Gibson  
Ashley Lopez Mora  
Aleia Truman

## Trumpet

Jess Mason\*  
Jonathan Holder  
Kurtis Sacksteder

## Trombone

Sabien Kinchlow-McConnaughey\*  
Cody Nutter  
Cassidy Stanhope, *bass trombone*

## Tuba

Cassidy Stanhope

## Timpani

Evan Nakanishi\*

## Percussion

Quinn Rasmussen\*  
Ben Helgeson  
Cole Strichertz  
Andrew Sims

## Keyboard

Henry Hossner

## Violin I

Naomi Southard\*  
Joy Han  
Justin Singh  
Mya Sullivan  
Kirsten Iverson  
Kyla Rivera

## Violin II

Marley Cochran\*  
Gabriel Casey-Aguinaga  
Elizabeth Bankowski  
Stan Piddubnyy  
Lydia Downs  
Joan Fort  
Violet Albenesius  
Jess Mason

## Viola

Noatak Post\*  
Alyson Rake  
Virginia Arthur  
Marilyn Willis  
Taren Massey

## Cello

Madelynne Jones\*  
Elliot Capron  
Nathaniel Bratcher  
Marisa Robbins  
Jeffrey Buetow

## Double Bass

Campian Roberts\*  
Lexi Castillo\*  
Madeline Cline  
Taya Lovejoy  
Declan Long

\*Section Principal/Co-principal

Lexi Castillo, *librarian*

## Pacific Lutheran University Orchestra Alumni

### Flute

Karina (Shelton) Alvarez 2012  
Holly Gentes 2003  
Aimee (Burkenbine) Hecimovich 2003  
AJ Moore 2022  
Sarah (Kintner) Thorpe 2014

### Oboe

Hope Bales 2014  
Kelsey Johnson 2015  
Lydia Robinson 2017  
Cooper Sumrall 2012

### Clarinet

Naomi (Wilkins) Fanshier 2006  
Lyndi Knox 2018  
Abigail Shedd 2019  
Ingrid Smith 2018  
Devin Turner 2016

### Bassoon

Sara (Ladenberg) Savala 2006

### Trumpet

David Harkness 1987  
Karolyn Labes 1991  
Robert Layton 2016  
Eric Lundquist 2012  
Lauren (Berg) Pitts 2014  
Claire Rehmke 2017  
Loran Saretske 1974

### Trombone

Brock Salatino UPS 2025\*\*

### Bass Trombone

Sean Matsunaga (Shin Fukushima) 1988

### Tuba

Christopher Wessell 2013

### Percussion

Amy Arand 2016  
Anneliese Kellogg 2011  
Kelsey Kosin 2016

### Harp

Cassie (Reinbolt) Turner 2014

### Violin I

Hannah Applewhite 2011  
Lynn Bartlett-Johnson 1974, 1977, 1982  
David Benson 1994  
Laura Hillis 2017  
Lisa (Rhea) Ingraham 1985  
Alexander Johnson 2021  
Heather (Kessel) Lindbo 1995  
Begin Nora (Judd) 2004  
Rebecca (Stephenson) Norton 2001  
Kaitlin (Lohr) Reed 2010  
Nathan Rødahl 2015  
Samantha Rødahl 2015  
Svend Rønning 1989  
Travis Savala 2006

### Violin II

Nick De Los Santos 2019  
Micaela (Ingraham) Derouin 2014  
Leah Foster-Koth 2022  
Carl Johnson 2019  
Caroline Judd-Herzfeldt 2008  
Heather Lindbo 1996  
Cherish Scheidhauer 2022  
Eric Stuen 2000  
Sarah Swift 2018  
Jessica Yan 2024

### Viola

Christina Castello 2013  
Dayna (Hesse) Hall 2002  
Nicholas Lockey 2002  
Barbara Mead 1976  
Alvina (Hauf) Olstead 1973, 1978  
Christine Perkins 2013  
Sophie Robinson 2019

### Violoncello

Matthew Grenzner 2006  
Jerilynn Harris 2008  
Eileen (Padden) Kemink 2004  
Marissa Lewis 2014  
Eileen (Rue) Reichert 1971  
Kyle Siemers 2020  
Kaitlynn Turner 2018  
Holly (Borroff) Wright 2010

### Contrabass

Gus Blazek 1982  
Liz (Lonsdale) Dunsmoor 2011  
Harmony Young 2012

\*\*Second generation alum