



Montclair State University
Wind Symphony

Thomas McCauley, *conductor*

Steven W. Ryan, *piano*

Alexander Kasser Theater
Friday, May 3, 2019, at 7:30 pm

Dr. Susan A. Cole, President
Daniel Gurskis, Dean, College of the Arts
Dr. Jon Robert Cart, Director, John J. Cali School of Music
Jedediah Wheeler, Executive Director, Arts & Cultural Programming
Peak Performances presents:

MSU Wind Symphony Thomas McCauley, *conductor*

63rd and Wallace (3rd Floor) Alex Walton

Premiere

Hommage 'a l'ami Papageno Jean Francaix

Steven W. Ryan, *piano*

Variations Bruce Yurko

World Premiere

(Dedicated to Dr. Thomas McCauley and the MSU Wind Symphony)

INTERMISSION

Symphony No. 7 David Maslanka

I. Moderate

II. Slow

III. Very Fast

IV. Moderately Slow

Steven W. Ryan, *piano*



Program Notes

63rd and Wallace (3rd Floor) Alex Walton

Conductor Thomas McCauley first heard a piano version of this piece during the auditions for the annual Kaleidoscope Concerts held each October here on campus. McCauley approached composer/pianist, and MSU undergraduate student, Alex Walton about perhaps orchestrating *63rd and Wallace* for a small group of wind instruments. After several revisions and much hard work on the part of the composer, the MSU Wind Symphony is happy to present the result of Mr. Walton's efforts. About his piece, *63rd and Wallace*, Alex Walton states:

63rd & Wallace was originally conceived as a 4-movement solo piano work inspired by the gruesome and compelling story of America's first nationally famous serial killer, H. H. Holmes. I was listening to a three-part series about Holmes by *The Last Podcast on the Left*, and was immediately captivated by the killer's life. This work is inspired by the hotel Holmes built to facilitate his murders, each movement representing a different floor of the building. Here, the 3rd floor, is where Holmes had his bedroom and a bank vault. He would hire impressionable young women to work in his hotel, seduce them, then lock them in the bank vault and asphyxiate them with poison gas, as he watched through a pane of glass behind a piece of artwork in his bedroom. Arranged for a woodwind ensemble, the poison gas is represented by the piccolo and flute and is heard just after the climax of the piece.

Hommage 'a l'ami Papageno Jean Francaix

"My *Hommage à l'ami Papageno* is more than just a paraphrase. It is a musical expression of my gratitude towards the musician whom people left to die in poverty."

Jean Franciix's touching description of his tribute to W.A. Mozart is also evident in the music itself. The warm, loving atmosphere of *Hommage à l'ami Papageno* bears witness to Francaix's "...imaginary dialogue between the greatest composer of all times and his obedient servant."

Composed in 1984, *Hommage à l'ami Papageno* features a small cadre of winds and piano soloist. Themes from Mozart's *The Magic Flute* are lovingly and thoughtfully exposed and expounded upon during the duration of the piece.

The MSU Wind Symphony is happy to have one of our dear friends, Mr. Steven Ryan, as the piano soloist this evening. Mr. Ryan will also appear later in the evening as the soloist on David Maslanka's *Symphony No. 7*. Steven Ryan's talent and remarkable musical ability is an inspiration to us all, and we are honored to have him with us tonight.

Variations 2019 Bruce Yurko

New Jersey composer Bruce Yurko has been a friend of the MSU Wind Symphony for several years. In 2017, the group recorded Yurko's *Bassoon Concerto No. 2*, with Dr. Sasha Enegren as soloist, and, in 2019, the ensemble performed Yurko's *Ankrovag Fanfare* at the 2019 College Band Directors National Association National Conference in Tempe, Arizona.

It was directly after the performance at the CBDNA national conference that Yurko approached conductor Thomas McCauley to say that he had composed a new work, and had dedicated the new piece to McCauley and the MSU Wind Symphony. Tonight's performance of *Variations 2019* is the world premiere of that work. About *Variations 2019*, composer Bruce Yurko states:

Variations 2019 was composed for Thomas McCauley and the Montclair State University Wind Symphony as a gift for their performance of my *Ankrovag Fanfare* which opened the concert at the 2019 College Band Directors National Conference in Tempe, Arizona. What an honor to have this outstanding conductor and ensemble perform my music.

Variations 2019 is based on two 7 - note tone rows. Each variation explores the vitality of rhythm, tonal timbre and ever- changing groupings of wind and percussion instruments.

The MSU Winds Symphony is honored to call Mr. Yurko a friend. And it is with both great excitement and great humility that we present the premiere performance of Bruce Yurko's *Variations 2019*.

Symphony No. 7 David Maslanka

The music of David Maslanka has become standard programming for college and university band programs around the United States. Since Maslanka's untimely passing in 2017, his life has spurred an even greater interest in both the man and the music he created.

About his *Symphony No. 7*, David Maslanka wrote:

I am strongly affected by American folk songs and hymn tunes, and I think of this Symphony and "old songs remembered". With one exception all the tunes are original, but they all feel very familiar. The borrowed melody is from the 371 Four-Part Chorales by J.S. Bach. Each song has a bright side and a dark side, a surface and the dream underneath. Each is a signal or call which evokes an inner world of associations.

1. Sunday night church services from my youth. Mrs. Smith played the piano. The opening piano solo is marked "enthusiastically" in the score. A dream travels to a far place.
2. In the manner of an American folk song, with a setting that might have come out of the 19th or early 20th centuries.
3. A ferocious fast music, unrelenting, determined to get a grip on chaos. Toward the end a fractious quote of the Bach Chorale melody "Du Friedensfurst Herr Jesu Christ" (Prince of Peace Lord Jesus Christ).
4. A simple song of peace and healing.

Since 2009, the MSU Wind Symphony has performed David Maslanka's *Symphony No. 2*, *Symphony No. 4*, *Husa*, and *In Memorium*. In the upcoming 2019-2020 academic year, the group will once again perform *Symphony No. 4*, and will present Maslanka's haunting *Remember Me*.

The Montclair State University Wind Symphony

Comprised of the best wind players and percussionists in the John J. Cali School of Music at Montclair State University in New Jersey, the Montclair State University Wind Symphony, since 2006, has appeared at the New Jersey Music Educators Association Conference, 2012 CBDNA Eastern Division Conference, the National Association for Music Education Eastern Division Conference, and the 2015 and 2012 Northeast Regional Tuba-Euphonium Conference. Their appearance at the 2019 CBDNA National Conference in Tempe, Arizona marked the first time that a large ensemble from Montclair State University has appeared at a national conference.

The MSU Wind Symphony is one of three concert bands in the John J. Cali School of Music, and the vast majority of its members are undergraduate students majoring in Music Education, Music Therapy, Music Performance, or Composition. The MSU Wind Symphony has premiered pieces by composers David Gillingham, Elizabeth Brown, O'Neal Douglas, Patrick Burns, and Ting Ho; has recently recorded works by Bruce Yurko and Tom Davoren; and has participated in commissioning works from composers Lawton Hall, Armando Bayolo, James Beckel, and Stephen Anderson. The MSU Wind Symphony has appeared in concert with, among others, The Imani Winds, the Monarch Brass, The Manhattan Brass Quintet, Warren Vaché, and Demondrae Thurman. Since 2006, tours have taken the ensemble to Philadelphia, Boston, Indianapolis, Chicago, Atlantic City, and New York City where, in 2014, they appeared at Carnegie Hall.

Thomas McCauley is currently the Director of University Bands in the John J. Cali School of Music at Montclair State University in New Jersey where he conducts the Montclair State University Wind Symphony and teaches both graduate and undergraduate conducting. He has held similar positions in the states of Indiana, Ohio, and Illinois in addition to teaching high school instrumental music in Nevada for nine years. Composers including Karel Husa, David Gillingham, Joseph Turrin, Bruce Yurko, Robert Aldridge, Morten Lauridsen and O'Neal Douglas have praised his work. Dr. McCauley has twice appeared as a clinician at the MidWest Clinic in Chicago. Each November, he hosts and teaches a symposium at Montclair State University called the *Weekend Wind Conducting Symposium* with special guest clinicians and participants from around the world.

Dr. Thomas McCauley is in demand as a guest conductor, clinician, and adjudicator throughout North America. Ensembles under McCauley's direction have appeared at national and regional conventions and conferences, and he has collaborated with artists including The Imani Winds, The Manhattan Brass

Quintet, Warren Vaché, Demondrae Thurman, Monarch Brass, and Phil Smith. McCauley recently accepted a position as a *Conn-Selmer Educational Clinician*.

McCauley is the Founder and Artistic Director of *Windhaven*; an intensive, week-long performance opportunity for wind players and percussionists ages 18-28, which takes place each May at the Kinhaven Music School in the beautiful mountains of Weston, Vermont.

Dr. McCauley has been published in *The Instrumentalist* magazine, several state music magazines, and in the second edition of *Teaching Music Through Performance in Band, Vol I* published by G.I.A. publications. In 1995, the Nevada Music Educator's Association named Dr. McCauley *Music Educator of the Year* and in 2006, the Indiana Music Educators Association honored Dr. McCauley with an *Outstanding University Music Educator Award*. Dr. McCauley's book titled, *Adventures in Band Building (or How to Turn a Less-Than-It-Could-Be into a More-Than-It-Should-Be)* is published by G.I.A. Publications. He currently serves on the Executive Board of the New Jersey Band Association, is the New Jersey State Representative of the College Band Directors National Association, and is the former New Jersey State Representative of the National Band Association. He is also an active member of the World Association for Symphonic Bands and Ensembles, and the National Association for Music Education.

Pianist **Steven W. Ryan** joined the Cali School faculty in 2006. He has performed as an orchestral keyboardist with most of the major orchestras in New York City, including members of the Metropolitan Opera Orchestra. He has played celesta with the legendary Berlin Philharmonic at Carnegie Hall; piano, harpsichord, and portative organ with the Dessoff Choirs; and synthesizer with the Moody Blues rock band. He has collaborated with conductors such as Lorin Maazel, Vladimir Ashkenazy, Neeme Järvi, Bernhard Haitink, Gerard Schwarz, and Maxim Shostakovich, among others. Mr. Ryan took first place in the 2001 Concours des Grands Amateurs de Piano. At the close of this international competition he was engaged to perform Tchaikovsky's Piano Concerto No. 1 in B-Flat Minor at the Sorbonne in Paris. In addition to winning the French competition, Steven took second prize in the 2000 Van Cliburn International Piano Competition for Outstanding Amateurs. This past season, Mr. Ryan performed Olivier Messiaen's *Oiseaux Exotiques* with the Montclair State University Wind Symphony. Mr. Ryan is the accompanist for the MSU choral program and is also a collaborative artist for faculty and student recitals in the Cali School of Music.

Montclair State University Wind Symphony

(alphabetical order)

Flute / Piccolo

Melissa Callegari, Smithtown, Music Performance
Amanda Morden, Verona, Music Performance
Ava Rodriguez, New Jersey, Music Education
Anna Swedén, Stockholm, Artist Diploma

Oboe

Alejandro Briceno, Mexico City, Artist Diploma
Kat Keller, West Milford, Music Education

Bassoon

Karl Kubiak, Bagley, MM Performance
Lina Nilsson, Stockholm, Artist Diploma

Contrabassoon

Alex Lemma, Staten Island, Music Performance

E-flat Clarinet

Lauren Delesky, Teaneck, MA Conducting

B-flat Clarinet

Sylvia Edwards, Galloway, Music Performance
Nickolas Grubic, Wantage, Music Education
Sabrina Isaac, Staten Island, Music Performance
Anthony Kalanick, Denville, Music Education
Julia Marra, Hopatcong, Music Education
Kaylin Mauro, Staten Island, Music Performance
Joe Schinnick, Lyndhurst, Music Education
Nuvee Thammikasakul, Bangkok, Artist Diploma
Edward Yeo, Las Vegas, Music Performance

Bass Clarinet

Allan Daleus, Bloomfield, Music Education
Ellen Ivansson, Karlstad, Artist Diploma

Soprano / Alto Saxophone

Kevin Schaarschmidt, Hackettstown, Music Education

Alto Saxophone

Daniel Vincello, Hackettstown, Music Education

Tenor Saxophone

Isabella Rochford, South Plainfield, Music Therapy

Baritone Saxophone

Tyler Smayda, Hazlet, Music Education

Horn

Allie Arnold, Lakeland, Music Performance
Joy Breiten, Bronx, Music Performance
Nicole Rodriguez, Orlando, Artist Diploma
Emma Wahlström, Gävle, Artist Diploma

Trumpet

Dale Beyert, Westfield, Music Performance
Deshaun Hinson, East Orange, Music Education
Tyler McCann, Jackson, Music Education
James Reed Ricotta, Toms River, Music Education
Peter Suckiel, West Milford, Music Education

Trombone

James Boland, Hamilton, Music Education
Stephen Hannan, Brooklyn, Music Performance
Harvey Mars, Teaneck, Artist Diploma
Federico Perez, Montevideo, Jazz Education

Euphonium

Alyssa Scano, Staten Island, Music Education
Zachary Vaporis, Nutley, Music Education

Tuba

Joshua Bugtai, Clifton, Music Therapy
Brian Prada, Clifton, Music Education

String Bass

Domenic Croce, Fair Lawn, Music Education

Piano

Basia Thomas, Memphis, MM Performance

Percussion

Carmine Fuimano, Hazlet, Music Education
Victoria Limongelli, Essex Fells, Music Education
Michael Oddo, Staten Island, Music Education
Kyle O'Toole, Wayne, Music Education
Nicholas Peters, Metuchen, Music Theory /
Composition
Leanne Santos, Waretown, Music Education

2019-2020 Performances

Alexander Kasser Theater

Sunday, October 27, at 3 pm

University Singers & MSU Wind Symphony

Tuesday, November 19, at 7:30 pm

MSU Symphonic Band and Campus Band

Friday, December 6, at 7:30 pm

MSU Wind Symphony

Friday, March 20, at 7:30 pm

MSU Wind Symphony & Guest High School Band

Tuesday, April 28, at 7:30 pm

MSU Symphonic Band and Campus Band

Friday, May 1, at 7:30 pm

MSU Wind Symphony

Peak Performances: peakperfs.org

John J. Cali School of Music: montclair.edu/music

The use of electronic devices during performances is strictly prohibited.
Those who fail to comply will be asked to leave the theater.

MONTCLAIR STATE UNIVERSITY

Please recycle.