



**GRAND VALLEY
STATE UNIVERSITY**

**DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC,
THEATRE, AND DANCE**

GVSU University Band

John Martin, conductor

Dr. James Thompson, soloist

7:30 P.M.

Tuesday, April 8, 2025

Louis Armstrong Theatre

Haas Center for Performing Arts

Program

Choose Joy (2022)

Randall Standridge (b. 1976)

Beguine for Band (1954)

Glenn Osser (1914-2014)

Song for Lyndsay (2007)

Andrew Boysen, Jr. (b. 1968)

Taylor Seelye, piano

Festivo (1968/1996)

Vaclav Nelhybel (1918-1990)

~Intermission~

The Grand Rapids March (2024)

Nicholas Sparks (b. 2002)

Riptides (2020)

Katahj Copley (b. 1998)

Gabriel's Oboe (1986/2008)

Ennio Morricone (1928-2020)

arr. Robert Longfield

Dr. James Thompson, flute

The Lion King (1994)

Elton John (b. 1947)

arr. John Higgins

Personnel Roster

Piccolo

Rae Kowalsky
Kelly Spade

Flute

Kates Krasin*
Rae Kowalsky
Emily Cornish
Morgan Carlson
Kelly Spade
Zachary Haverkamp
Dylan Barrick
Kaitlyn Dusendang
Emma Rhodes

Oboe

Paige Winkler*

Clarinet

Sofia Ellis*
Caleb Peckham
Taryn Marino
Emilia Doyle
Isabella Donaldson
Emily Sorensen
Yelena Calcaterra
Emma Prestly
Grey Eskestrand
Jeni Yost

Bass Clarinet

Kevin Wong
Clarence Hankins

Alto Saxophone

Zach Stevens*
Miles Davis
Tyler Lopez
Lily Schmuker
Joshua Killian
Declan Arthur

Tenor Saxophone

Luke Kaiser
Chloe Fashho

Baritone Saxophone

Conner Cunningham

Horn

Kinsey Heersma*
Madison Cornelius
Alina Maes
Seth Warrow
Magdalena Tysman

Trumpet

Drew Rhoades*
Anna Padilla
Diego De Jong
Hailey Chycinski
Sam Sikorski
Austin House
Nova Crays
Blake House
Jonah Kamphuis
Richard Dolnik
Leah Bouwman
Cassy Gossett
Parker Wilkie

Trombone

Alex Spalding*
Blake Bacon
John Hartwick
Riley Spencer
Kaia Barnhardt
Carter Hebler

Euphonium

Connor VanDrunen*
Thomas Stanton

Tuba

Julia Droscha
Grant Potter*

Percussion

Charlie Baldwin
Ben Barker
Lydia De Castilhos
Seth Kane
Hannah Olszewski
Hailey Petersen
Owen Smythe

*Denotes Principal

Program Notes

Choose Joy

Inspired by a high school student who found happy moments even in the face of cancer, this uplifting work from Randall Standridge combines engaging rhythms, energetic melodies, bombastic percussion, and hints of Beethoven's Ode to Joy to create a message of positivity for performers and audiences alike. Destined to be a favorite! Part of Randall Standridge's The unBroken Project.

- Program Note from publisher

Beguine for Band

In one of his earliest and most popular works, Osser has successfully organized the characteristic beguine rhythm for concert band. The beguine originated as a popular dance of the West Indies.

- Program Note from Program Notes for Band

Song for Lyndsay

Song for Lyndsay was commissioned by Jack Stamp at Indiana University of Pennsylvania. It is an expansion on a short and unnamed piano piece that Boysen wrote for his wife, Lyndsay, in 2005. The wind piece is larger in length and scope than the source material; in the score, Boysen describes it as “a very personal work ... more than anything else a simple love song dedicated to Lyndsay and what she has meant in my life.”

The piano piece is used as a starting point, and the material in the winds is either based on or a direct quotation of it. Lyrical in nature and just over five minutes long, solo horn and solo flute are prominent throughout; this scoring is deliberately and symbolically used because Boysen plays the horn and his wife the flute.

- Program Note from publisher

Festivo

Nelhybel states, “*Festivo* is an overture-type composition in which the woodwinds and the brasses are constantly confronting each other like two antagonists in a dramatic scene.” The resulting percussive concept of wind performance, which is

prevalent in twentieth-century music, provides a striking impact for the performer and listener.

- *Program Note from score*

The Grand Rapids March

The *Grand Rapids March*, Op. 12, No. 1 was inspired solely by the marches of John Philip Sousa. It is a very traditional march and gives solos to different instruments. Like Sousa's marches, it has an introduction, A section, B section, Trio, Break Strain, and Final Strain setup. This march was written for the University Band at Grand Valley State University under the direction of Dr. John Martin. This would be the second composition collaboration with Dr. John Martin.

- *Program Note from composer*

Riptides

Throughout Earth's time, many myths about what the ocean contains have emerged. Mermaids, sea monsters and creatures of the unknown are expected to be dwelling under the sea. In 1721, Hans Egede, a Dano-Norwegian missionary, set sail to Godthåb, the largest city on the western coast of Greenland. On this voyage, he observed:

“[the] most terrible creature resembling nothing they saw before. The monster lifted its head so high that it seemed to be higher than the crow's nest on the mainmast. The head was small and the body short and wrinkled. The unknown creature was using giant fins which propelled it though the water. Later the sailors saw its tail as well. The monster was longer than the whole ship.”

The deepest point ever reached by man is 35,858 feet below sea level, which happens to be the deepest known point on Earth's ocean floor. Around 700 feet below sea level, light disappears; therefore, the rest of the journey to the bottom of the hydrosphere is in complete darkness through the unknown.

After learning about Egede and his voyage, I realized how fearful the ocean can be and how little we know about it. I began composing *Riptides* to depict my exploration of the Ocean. The piece begins with a call to the sea and develops into its melody, which is surrounded by a scheme of danger. As *Riptides* continues, the energy races through this quality of danger and fear, represented by a mermaid call. The piece is built on eccentric percussion instruments such as the conch shell horn, ocean drums and thumb rolls on the timpani and bass drum. Decorated elements such as dissonant textures and glissando techniques are used, differing from any

other piece I have written thus far. As the frantic thrill continues to the pivotal point of the piece, *Riptides* takes a voyage to the deepest parts of the unknown -- of the unfamiliar.

- Program Note by Ann Wilson

Gabriel's Oboe

Gabriel's Oboe was written by Morricone as the main theme of the 1986 motion picture *The Mission*. Directed by Roland Joffe, the film is set in the imperial era of Spain and Portugal. The story is about a Jesuit missionary who builds a mission in the South American wilderness in hopes of converting the natives there to Christianity. *The Mission* was nominated for an Academy Award for Best Original Score and won the Golden Globe for Best Original Score.

In the film, the musical theme is most prominently used when the Jesuit Father Gabriel (Jeremy Irons) walks up to a waterfall and starts playing his oboe, aiming to befriend the natives with his music so he can carry on his missionary work in the New World. The Guaraní tribesmen, who have been stalking him from a distance, approach Gabriel for the first time, puzzled by the sounds of the unknown instrument. The chief of the tribe, however, is displeased by this, and breaks Gabriel's oboe. This marks the beginning of the relationship between Father Gabriel and the Guaraní natives.

- Program Note adapted from notes by Amanda Wang and John Uchal

The Lion King

Disney's 32nd full-length animated film, *The Lion King*, was the studio's first to be based on an original story. This blockbuster featured five songs by Elton John and Tim Rice. John Higgins medley includes: "Circle of Life," "Hakuna Matata," "Be Prepared," "I Just Can't Wait to Be King," and "Can You Feel the Love Tonight?"

- Program Note from publisher

GVSU Music Faculty

Corie Auger	Samuel Gould	Danny Phipps
Christopher Belland	Dan Graser	Bill Ryan
Rachael Bergan	Letitia Jap	Justin Sarns
Richard Britsch	Gary June	Joel Schut
Mark Buchner	Olivia Kieffer	Greg Secor
Arthur Campbell	Andrew Lenhart	Kathryn Stieler
Paul Carlson	Pablo Mahave-Veglia	Paul Swantek
Sookkyung Cho	Helen Marlais	James Thompson
Greg Crowell	Barry Martin	Kevin Tutt
Michael Drost	John Martin	Marlen Vavříková
Lisa Feurzeig	Chuck Norris	Mark Williams
Beth Gibbs	Victoria Olsen	Alex Wilson
Patricia Gordon	Christopher Petersmark	Molly York

Upcoming MTD Events

April 9 at 7:30PM - Symphony Orchestra. LAT
April 10 at 7:30PM – Saxophone Studio Recital. SVS
April 11 at 7:00PM – Senior Dance Concert. 1600
April 11 at 7:30PM – Wind Symphony. LAT
April 12 at 2:00PM – Senior Dance Concert. 1600
April 13 at 5:00PM – Early Music Ensemble. SVS
April 14 at 7:30PM – University Arts Chorale. Cook-DeWitt Center
April 15 at 7:30PM – Anima and Varsity Glee Club. Cook-DeWitt Center
April 16 at 3:00PM – Guest Artist Masterclass: Thomas Hubel, trumpet.
April 16 at 7:30PM – Cello Studio Recital. SVS

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