

University Wind Ensemble

Sunday, March 16, 2025 at 7:30pm
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, March 16, 2025 at 7:30pm
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

To be selected from:

Traveler..... David Maslanka (1943-2017)

Deep River for Wind Band..... Benjamin Horne (b. 1995)

Only Light..... Aaron Perrine (b. 1979)

On Parade..... Amanda Aldridge (1866-1956)
arr. Kaitlin Bove

Storm Chasers Catherine Likhuta (b. 1981)
II. Bittersweet

Evan Nakanishi, *timpani soloist*

Shepherd's Hey Percy Grainger (1882-1961)

Sea Goddess Hiroaki Kataoka (b. 1983)

Program Notes

Traveler was commissioned in 2003 by the University of Texas at Arlington Band Alumni Association, the Delta Sigma chapter of Kapa Kappa Psi and the Gamma Nu chapter of Tau Beta Sigma, in honor of the career contributions of Ray C. Lichtenwalter (b. 1940), retiring director of bands at UT Arlington. Ray has been a close friend and champion of my music for many years, and it was a great pleasure for me to write this piece for his final concert.

The idea for *Traveler* came from the feeling of a big life movement as I contemplated my friend's retirement. *Traveler* begins with an assertive statement of the chorale melody *Nicht so traurig, nicht so sehr* (Not so sad, not so much). The chorale was not chosen for its title, although in retrospect it seems quite appropriate. The last part of a life need not be sad. It is the accumulation of all that has gone before, and a powerful projection into the future – the potential for a tremendous gift of life and joy. And so, the music begins with energy and movement, depicting an engaged life in full stride. At the halfway point, a meditative quiet settles in. Life's battles are largely done; the soul is preparing for its next big step.

*In our hearts, our minds, our souls
We travel from life to life to life
In time and eternity.*

– Quote and program note by composer

Deep River is an arrangement of the traditional spiritual of the same name for wind band. This arrangement is inspired by a popular art song version by Henry Burleigh. His low baritone voice as well as renditions by singers such as Paul Robeson are the motivation for this version's use of solo tuba for the song's initial presentation. Burleigh (1866-1949) was an American classical music composer, arranger, and professional singer. He is a pioneering Black American composer and performer who is credited for introducing and arranging spirituals, like *Deep River*, for classical music audiences.

*Deep river, my home is over Jordan.
Deep river, Lord, I want to cross over into campground*

*Oh, don't you want to go to that Gospel feast?
That Promised Land, where all is peace?*

Only Light is one of two compositions by composer Aaron Perrine to win the American Bandmasters Association Sousa/Ostwald Award. The work is a beautiful tribute and remembrance inspired in part by the passing of his best friend's mother and her courage and strength through adversity. The composition is a beautiful example of the multitude of color and mood changes available to wind and percussion instruments. In the composer's words the piece is intended to convey a sense of hope and healing to all.

Much of Amanda C. E. Aldridge's compositions were composed under male pseudonym, Montague Ring. She was born in London, the mixed-race daughter of an African American Shakespearian actor, Ira Aldridge, and Swedish opera singer, Amanda Pauline von Brandt. Aldridge was an accomplished composer, pianist, and singer who studied at the Royal College. In later years, she taught private voice and elocution lessons to British and American singers and actors, including Black performers Paul Robeson, Roland Hayes, and Marian Anderson. Kaitlin Bove's 2020 arrangement of *On Parade* brings to life the music and memory of an important historical and musical figure.

– Notes adapted from the score

"Bittersweet" is the title of the middle movement of Catherine Likhuta's *Concerto for Timpani and Wind Ensemble – Storm Chasers*. The composition was commissioned by an international consortium led by the University of Melbourne Conservatorium of Music with consultation with percussionist, Brent Miller. The piece is inspired by horrendous floods that took place in Queensland and New South Wales, Australia in 2021-2022. Bittersweet reflects the heartbreaking losses and communal tragedy of events like this flood and other climate disasters.

The score to Percy Grainger's *Shepherd's Hey* is dedicated lovingly and reverently to Edvard Grieg with a note that the tune is a traditional English Morris Dance tune collected by Cecil J. Sharp. During his lifetime, Sharp collected hundreds of English folk tunes. Additionally, he traveled to America in the mid-1910's collecting tunes from Appalachia with roots and ties to Bluegrass music. Grainger and Grieg, both admirers of folk music, met when Grainger as a young man. Grainger remained a champion of Grieg's music through the remainder of his lifetime. Morris Dancers or "Morris Men" dress with costumes of jingling bells to tunes like this one played on the fiddle or the "pipe and tabor" – fife and drum.

Sea Goddess is music in reference to Japanese mythology of the same name. The composition was commissioned by the Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force Ominato Band. The title refers to one of many deities born of Izanagi-no-Mikoto and Izanami-no-Mikoto, creators of the Japanese isles. It is also a boat for the goddess that flies in the sky and sails in the ocean. The myth tells that the boat sails like a bird. This boat figure adorns popular Japanese prayer cards that promote inspired and transformational travel adventures in life (both real and imagined).

The composer, Hiroaka Kataoka graduated from the Tokyo College of Music majoring in percussion. His signature work, *Sea Goddess*, premiered in the United States on December 18, 2014 at the Midwest Clinic by Orange County School of the Arts (Santa Ana, California) Frederick Fennell Wind Ensemble (Teren Shaffer, conductor). He currently teaches at Tokyo Seikyo University and Japan Women's University.

About the Conductor

Ron Gerhardstein is the Director of Band Studies 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. He also serves as a practicum and student teaching mentor and supervisor. Dr. Gerhardstein serves as the director of the PLU – NW High School 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 (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, Washington Ambassadors of Music Tours of Europe in 2014 and 2018, 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 Past President. Dr. Gerhardstein makes his home in Tacoma with his wife, Jerilyn, an elementary teacher librarian in the Bethel School District.

2024-2025 Pacific Lutheran University Wind Ensemble

Flute

Ellen Coburn*
Kade Levien
Eli Lockhart*
Michelle Owen

Oboe/English Horn

Sara Atwood
Jayden White*

Bassoon

Grace Karns
Syd Thayer-O'Brien*

Clarinet

Meaghan Austin
Matthew Helmer
Katelyn Hight
Andrew Lee
Sophia Ramos*

Bass/Contrabass Clarinet

Joe Alvarez
Abigail Caprye

Alto Sax

Kyrsten Campbell
Denny Corson*
Abbie Hughes

Tenor Sax

Conor Beach

Baritone Sax

Aidan Hille

Horn

Ben Coats*
James Gibson
Cameron Holden
Roselyn Tobeck

Trumpet

Devin Bianchi-Rivera
Connor Kaczowski
Brandon Liukkonen
Sylvie Manz
Jess Mason*

Trombone

Lola Chargualaf
Sabien Kinchlow-McConnaughey*
Max Minjares
Sarah Zundel

Euphonium

Josh Green
Cody Nutter

Tuba

Cassidy Stanhope*
Lillian Woolery

Double Bass

Taya Lovejoy
Campian Roberts

Percussion

Kyle Gough
Ben Hegge
Evan Nakanishi*
Adrian Ragil
Ronin Schoolcraft
Caden Valerio

Piano

Iris Lee

*Section Leader

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

- 8 Saturday, 7:30pm**
Puget Sound Concert Opera: *Highway 1, USA* and opera by William Grant Still, free admission (donations accepted)
- 9 Sunday, 3pm**
Richard D. Moe Organ Recital Series: Barbara Baird, Organist
- 19 Wednesday, 7:30pm**
Faculty Recital: Er-Hsuan Li, Piano, free admission
- 20 Thursday, 7pm**
United States Coast Guard Band Presents: "Centennial Celebration" Concert Tour, free admission but ticket is required:
<https://www.ticketleap.events/tickets/us-coast-guard-band/Tacoma>

MARCH

- 1 Saturday, 2pm**
Guitar Orchestra & Guitar Ensemble, free admission
- 1 Saturday, 5pm**
Guitar Faculty Recital, free admission
- 2 Sunday, 3pm**
Second City Chamber Series: Bon Anniversaire, M. Ravel!. Tickets: \$40, purchased through Second City Chamber Series only, by phone at 253-572-8863 or at their website:
www.scchamberseries.org
- 9 Sunday, 3pm**
Choral Union
- 16 Sunday, 7:30pm**
University Wind Ensemble
- 18 Tuesday, 7:30pm**
Wayne Bergeron with the Pacific Lutheran University Jazz Ensemble. Eastvold Auditorum, Karen Hille Philips Center
- 19 Wednesday, 7:30pm**
University Symphony Orchestra: Student Showcase
- 22 Saturday, 1pm**
Rhythm Celebration concert. Eastvold Auditorium, Karen Hille Phillips Center, free admission
- 30 Sunday**
Pacific NW Trombone Symposium 2025, Mary Baker Russell Music Center

APRIL

- 6 Sunday, 3pm**
Faculty Recital: Oksana Ejokina, Piano with Guest Artists, free admission
- 16 Wednesday, 7:30pm**
Keyboard Students Recital, free admission
- 19 Saturday, 7:30pm**
Faculty Recital: Jason Gilliam, Euphonium, free admission
- 22 Tuesday, 7:30pm**
Steel Band, free admission
- 23 Wednesday, 7:30pm**
Percussion Ensemble, free admission
- 27 Sunday, 3pm**
University Singers & Knights Chorus
- 27 Sunday, 7:30pm**
Faculty Recital: Jennifer Rhyne, Flute & Shelly Myers, Oboe, free admission
- 29 Thursday, 7:30pm**
University Chorale

MAY

- 1 Thursday, 7:30pm**
Choir of the West
- 2 Friday, 3:30pm**
Stanford Olsen Voice Masterclass. Jennie Lee Hansen Recital Hall, free admission
- 2 Friday, 7:30pm**
Sølvvinden Flute Ensemble, free admission

MAY, Cont.

- 3 Saturday, 7:30pm**
Guitar Orchestra & Guitar Ensemble, free admission
- 4 Sunday, 3pm**
University Wind Ensemble
- 6 Tuesday, 6pm**
Saxophone Quartets & Jazz Combos. The Cave, Anderson University Center, free admission
- 6 Wednesday, 7:30pm**
Piano Ensemble, free admission
- 8 Thursday, 7:30pm**
University Symphony Orchestra
- 9-10 Friday-Saturday, 7:30pm**
The Fairy Queen by Henry Purcell. Eastvold Auditorium, Karen Hille Phillips Center
- 10 Saturday, 3pm**
Woodwind Students Recital, free admission
- 10 Saturday, 4:30pm**
Brass Students Recital, free admission
- 11 Sunday, 6pm**
Chamber Music Kaleidoscope, free admission
- 11 Sunday, 7:30pm**
String Kaleidoscope, free admission
- 13 Tuesday, 7:30pm**
University Concert Band
- 14 Wednesday, 7:30pm**
University Jazz Ensemble. Eastvold Auditorium, Karen Hille Phillips Center
- 17 Saturday, 3pm**
Maryyka Vasilchuk Piano - Forestine Wise Monsen Scholarship Recital, free admission
- 17 Saturday, 7:30pm**
Choral Union
- 18 Sunday, 3pm**
Choir International Tour Concert
- 18 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 3, 2025)