



Upcoming Performances

JANUARY 28 & 30, 2018, 7PM

Cleveland Opera Theatre's NOW Festival

2nd Annual CCG/COT production of scenes by CCG members
Maltz Performing Arts Center \1855 Ansel Road\Cleveland
Free admission

THURSDAY, APRIL 5, 2018 7:30PM

Kendal at Oberlin \600 Kendal Drive\Oberlin

SUNDAY, APRIL 8, 2018, 3PM

Judson Manor \1890 E 107th Street\Cleveland

CCG and The Syndicate

2nd Annual Collaboration between two champions of new music.
Free admission

SUNDAY, MAY 6, 2018, 3PM

Creativity: Learning Through Experience XXVI

Collaborations between CCG members and young performers

The Music Settlement \11125 Magnolia Drive\Cleveland

Free admission

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Acknowledgements

Many thanks to the **Bascom Little Fund** for its continuing support of these concerts.

Please listen to **Innovations!** on **WCLV 104.9FM** with host Mark Satola, featuring music by Northeast Ohio composers, Sunday evenings at 9:00. Supported by the Bascom Little Fund.

Sincerest thanks to **Stephen T. and Mary Ann Griebing** for their meaningful and generous gift in support of the Cleveland Composers Guild.

2017-2018 Season

CLEVELAND COMPOSERS GUILD

Presents

New Music At The Museum

PAUL EPSTEIN

ROBERT ROLLIN

STEPHEN GRIEBLING

MATTHEW SAUNDERS

NICHOLAS PUIN

DAWN SONNTAG

WILLIAM RAYER

STEPHEN STANZIANO

Sunday 11-26-2017-3pm

Murch Auditorium-Cleveland Museum of Natural History

1 Wade Oval

Cleveland Ohio

Cleveland Composers Guild

2017-2018 SEASON: CONCERT 2

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 3:00PM
MURCH AUDITORIUM

Program

Four Piano Miniatures

Monarda didyma
Baptisia australis
Lychnis coronaria
Nicotiana glauca

Randall Fusco, Piano

Stephen Stanziano

Three English Duos

III. The Keeper in Summer

Wanda Sobieska, violin Jamie Thornburg, viola

Robert Rollin

On a Clear Night You Can See Forever

Aurora—Comet—Stars—Galaxies—Universe

Galo Arboleda, violin Patrick Wickliffe, piano

Matthew C. Saunders

An Introspective Demeanor—Suite for Trombone Quartet

Allegro
Adagio con moto
Allegro con brio

Caleb Slabuagh, Jack Buddenhagen, Vince Longo, and Adam Hamrick, trombones

Nicholas Puin

Intermission

Cosmos 1

Richard A. Rayer, clarinet (with electronics)

William Rayer

Tattler Creek

Linda White, flute Julian Ross, violin Malina Raschenfels, cello

Dawn Sonntag

Suite for Woodwind Quintet

Climbing
Soaring
Cruising
Searching

Tree City Woodwind Quintet

Sarah Yeates, flute Melissa Wallace, oboe Christopher Jones, clarinet
Zach Elmore, bassoon Joshua Thomas, horn

Stephen Griebling

Travelogue for Exiles

Paul Epstein and Echo Park

Paul Epstein

Program Notes

Zach Elmore, bassoonist, is a Graduate Assistant at Kent State University, where he studies with Mark DeMio. He has performed with the Cleveland Philharmonic Orchestra, Cleveland Winds, and Tuscarawas Philharmonic. Mr. Elmore holds a bachelor's degree from Kent State University, and enjoys the outdoors, basketball, and his two birds, Mousse and Maple.

Joshua Thomas, horn, is a graduate student at Kent State University where he is pursuing a masters degree. Joshua currently plays fourth horn in the Greenville Symphony Orchestra. He has performed with the North Pittsburgh Philharmonic and in the Renova Music Festival. He earned a bachelors in music at Westminster College in New Wilmington, Pennsylvania where he served as band librarian for three years.

Stephen Griebling is a self-taught composer who retired from the Firestone Tire & Rubber Company in 1994 after forty years as an engineer-chemist. He started composing at age seventeen, and has had performances of much of his music in the USA and Europe. His orchestral tone poem *Queensmere* was premiered by Louis Lane and the Akron Symphony and was later awarded first prize in the NSOA orchestral competition. His First Symphony received a standing ovation at its premiere by the Springfield (Ohio) Symphony Orchestra under the direction of John Ferritto. His compositions are published by the Manduca Music Co., Willis Music Company, Ludwig Masters Publishing Co., and Musicallygraphics.

Travelogue for Exiles is a portion of a larger work of the same name. It was written in 1984, and receives its first performance today.

Travelogue for Exiles by Karl Shapiro

Look and remember. Look upon this sky;
Look deep and deep into the sea—clean air,
The unconfined, the terminus of prayer.
Speak now and speak into the hallowed dome.
What do you hear? What does the sky reply?
The heavens are taken: this is not your home.

Look and remember. Look upon this land,
Far, far across the factories and the grass.
Surely, there, surely they will let you pass.
Speak then and ask the forest and the loam.
What do you hear? What does the land command?
The earth is taken: this is not your home.

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Look and remember. Look upon this sea;
Look down and down into the tireless tide.
What of a life below, a life inside,
A tomb, a cradle in the curly foam?
The waves arise; sea-wind and sea agree
The waters are taken: this is not your home.

Paul Epstein, a Cleveland native, studied at the Cleveland Institute of Music and the Juilliard School with Elliott Carter and Luciano Berio; he received his master's degree from Stony Brook University. He has received commissions from the National Symphony, the Emerson Quartet, and the Library of Congress, and served as composer-in-residence at the Aspen and South Mountain music festivals. His large-scale works include the "concept album" *Echo Park* (for chamber orchestra), *The Adventures of Matinee Concerto, as Broadcast Live from the Late 20th Century; with Notes* (for violin and orchestra/big band). He has played piano with the Emerson Quartet, at Symphony Space's "Wall-to-Wall Stravinsky," and with Dance Theater of Harlem and American Ballet Theater.

ProgramNotes

Tattler Creek was conceived during a hike in the Alaskan Tattler Creek Valley, fifty miles inside Denali National Park. I was struck by the ancient counterpoint of the dignified mountains against the vivid sky dotted with billowing clouds, the bubbling, rushing creek a few feet below me, and the fragile wildflowers, peering out from beneath the jagged rocks upon which I sat. In 2005, Paul McCarthy took a group of students into Tattler Creek to show them the type of rocks where dinosaur fossils might be found. “Like this one?” said one of the students, pointing to a large, three-toed print on the rock wall behind her. Since, thousands of prints have been found in the Tattler Creek valley, including during both my hiking trips in Tattler Creek.

Linda White, flutist, is a founding member of the BlueWater Chamber Orchestra, and has also performed with the Cleveland Pops Orchestra, and the Cleveland Opera Orchestra. She regularly performs with classical guitarist Robert Gruca in the Gruca White Ensemble. Linda teaches at The Music Settlement, and earned a master’s from the Cleveland Institute of Music, and a bachelor’s from the University of Wyoming.

Julian Ross is Professor of Violin and String Department Chair at Baldwin Wallace. He is violinist of BW’s resident ensembles, The Elysian Trio and Lyceum2. Ross’s diverse projects have included solo appearances in concerti that he commissioned and premiered, performance with the BW Jazz Ensemble, presentation of his original compositions and his transcriptions of Renaissance music and Yiddish folk tunes.

Malina Raschenfels is a baroque and modern cellist, composer, and co-director of Burning River Baroque. She has recorded with Toby Twining Music, The Newberry Consort, Duo Mignarda, Quire Cleveland, and the Marble Sanctuary Choir. She performed Davidovsky’s *Divertimento for Cello and Orchestra* with the Juilliard Orchestra, in a performance the New York *Times* described as “compellingly played.”

Dawn Sonntag is a composer, singer, pianist, and conductor. Recent premieres include performances by Corvus, the Orchid Ensemble, the Amphion Strings, Concert Black, the Fairbanks Community String Orchestra, and the Hiram College Wind Ensemble and String Orchestra. Her opera *Verlorene Heimat* (Lost Homeland), was premiered at Hiram College in 2014, and the Cleveland Opera Theater will be staging the full production in January 2018. Sonntag has twice been resident composer at the Visby International Centre for Composers in Sweden. She was recipient of a 2015 Criss Commission at Mississippi State University and MNTA-Ohio’s 2010 Distinguished Composer of the Year. She is Associate Professor of Music at Hiram College.

In addition to my musical passions, I enjoy building and flying rubber-powered free-flight model aircraft. I have been a member of the Cleveland Free Flight Society, a division of the international Flying Aces Club, for over 20 years. I am currently the second highest scoring member of the club, with a total of 404 first-place wins in more than twenty years of competition. The four movements of this **Suite for Woodwind Quintet** represent the four stages of a typical flight, which always ends in searching for the model after it lands.

Flutist **Sarah Yeates** is currently pursuing a graduate degree in flute performance and pedagogy under Diane McCloskey-Rechner, and holds a bachelor’s degree in music education from Baldwin Wallace, where she was a student of Sean Gabriel. While studying at Kent State University, she performs in the Kent Wind Ensemble and Symphony Orchestra. She volunteers in different national park systems in her free time.

Melissa Wallace, oboe, is currently pursuing a graduate degree in oboe at Kent State University under Danna Sundet, and received her bachelor’s from Baldwin Wallace University as a student of Jeff Rathbun. She enjoys playing in various chamber music groups as well as the KSU Orchestra and Wind Ensemble. In her free time, she enjoys drawing, reading, and crafting specialty espresso drinks at home.

Clarinetist **Christopher Jones** is a music performance graduate student at Kent State University, where he studies with Amitai Vardi. He performs in chamber ensembles and large ensembles at Kent State University, as well as the Solon Community Band, and is woodwind coach for the Garfield Heights High School Band. Mr. Jones earned a bachelor’s in music performance at the University of Mount Union.

The **Four Piano Miniatures** are titled *Monarda didyma*, *Baptisia australis*, *Lychnis coronaria*, and *Nicotiana glauca*. They are the names of four flower varieties in our garden: in order, scarlet beebalm, blue false indigo, rose campion, and flowering tobacco or white shooting stars. Each piece attempts to characterize the uniqueness (color, scent, etc.) of that individual flower. The four miniatures together last about ten minutes.

Randall Fusco, piano, is an active soloist and collaborative artist who has performed solo and chamber music concerts in numerous states and in Ireland. He has appeared as soloist with the Cleveland Orchestra Youth Orchestra, Cleveland Institute of Music Orchestra, Alliance Symphony Orchestra, and the Hiram College Concert Band. Mr. Fusco earned his Bachelor of Music and Master of Music degrees in Piano Performance from the Eastman School of Music where he studied with Cecile Genhart, Frank Glazer, and Barbara Lister-Sink. He is Professor of Music at Hiram College, where he teaches piano, music theory, music history, and introductory courses, serves as co-staff accompanist, and chairs the Music Department.

Stephen Stanziano is an active composer, educator, and bassist in Northeast Ohio, holding a doctorate in theory and composition from Kent State University. His commissions include works for The Panoramicos, The Saint Cecilia Choir, John Carroll University’s Schola Cantorum, The Lakeland Civic Band, The Hiram Chamber Orchestra, and baritone José Gotera. His works have been performed by the Cleveland Chamber Collective, guitarist Jason Vieaux, soprano Sandra Simon, and Cleveland Orchestra violist Lisa Boyko, and the Almeda Trio. His music has been performed throughout the United States and Europe, including St. Peter’s Basilica in Rome. He is a 2015 ASCAP PLUS award winner, and past president of the Cleveland Composers Guild, and serves on the music faculties of Cleveland State University, Hiram College, and Lakeland Community College.

The **Three English Duos** are paraphrase pieces using English folk songs as source material. *The Keeper in Summer* uses both *Sumer is Icumen In* (14th Century) and *The Keeper* (17th Century), both old English songs. This is a quodlibet piece that presents each song with original counterpoints and ultimately combines the two songs in invertible counterpoint. To spice up the proceedings, I could not help but add a couple of Schumann interjections from his *Papillons*. This was where he cited a theme from Beethoven’s Seventh Symphony. It seemed an appropriate addition, because it fit so well with the two English tunes. In any case quoting Schumann when he was quoting Beethoven seemed like an amusing turn...

Born in Warsaw, Poland, violinist **Wanda Sobieska** belongs to the fifth generation of a family of musicians. She has appeared as a solo and chamber musician in the United States, Poland, and Canada, for such organizations as the Toronto Cultural Center, Warsaw Institute of Fine Arts, and the Shrine Church of St. Stanislaus. In addition, she plays in orchestras including the Orchestra of Opera Circle Cleveland, Ashland Symphony, Mansfield Symphony, Youngstown Symphony, West Virginia Symphony, Warren Philharmonic, and Erie Philharmonic. She began studying violin at the age of five, and attended the Grazyna Bacewicz School of Music in Warsaw, the Cleveland Music School Settlement, and the College-Conservatory of Music at the University of Cincinnati, where she earned a bachelor’s degree in violin performance.

Violist **Jamie Thornburg** began to study violin and viola at the age of six. Her primary teachers include Marcia Ferritto, Molly Fung-Dumm, and Arthur Klima of the Cleveland Orchestra. Jamie earned a bachelor’s degree in viola performance from Cleveland State University and is a regular performer with Ashland Symphony, Chagrin Studio Orchestra, and Tuscarawas Philharmonic. She has also performed with many different orchestras including Pierce Chamber Players, The Cleveland Womens Orchestra, The Cleveland Opera Orchestra, and Trans-Siberian Orchestra. In 2013 Jamie began performing regularly with Black River String Quartet. Jamie began teaching in 1997 and runs a private studio.

ProgramNotes

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In addition to being Professor Emeritus of Music and former Chair of Composition at the Dana School of Music, Youngstown State, **Robert Rollin** has lectured as a guest composer at universities and festivals nationally and internationally. Rollin studied at the Juilliard School, City College of New York, Cornell University, and the Musikhochschule Hambourg. His works are published and commercially recorded, have been performed or broadcast on six continents, and have been used as required jury pieces in U.S.A., France, and South Africa. An active pianist, he is founder and coordinator of the New Music Guild, Inc. Festival. Rollin's premieres and guest residencies have taken him to New York, Cleveland, Quebec City, Zurich, Guadalajara, Aberdeen, Kiev, and Grahamstown (South Africa).

On a Clear Night You Can See Forever is a tribute to the Shafran Planetarium of the Cleveland Museum of Natural History. Within the dome of the planetarium, a clear night without city light pollution happens any time of the day or night, and enthusiasts of astronomy, like the composer, can see the incredible sights that normally happen only after bedtime. Beginning close to home, and moving further away from Earth, the music depicts first the aurora (only occasionally seen at latitude 41°N), then the elongated orbit of a comet, the stars in our neighborhood, which are seen to be part of a vast galaxy, which itself is only a basic unit in the structure of the universe. All are there just waiting to be seen on a clear night, and in the planetarium, every night is clear.

Galo Arboleda Solorzano, a native of Quito, Ecuador, started studying violin in the National Conservatory of Music in Quito. He has performed with the Simon Bolivar Youth Orchestra under Gustavo Dudamel. He earned a bachelor's degree from Kent State University, where he studied with Cathy Meng Robinson. He has been a substitute concertmaster with the Lakeland Civic Orchestra, and performed the Tchaikovsky Violin Concerto with the Stow Symphony.

Pianist **Patrick Wickliffe** is the Director of Music for St. Joan of Arc Parish. He earned a bachelor of music from Oberlin College Conservatory in 2005 and a master of music from the Cleveland Institute of Music in 2007. Originally from Omaha, Nebraska, Patrick has been a resident of Cleveland for the past twelve years, studying and working in his field. In his spare time Patrick enjoys reading and exercising out of doors in warm seasons.

Matthew C. Saunders has taught music from kindergarten to college, and strives to make beautiful music for and with captivating people. He has climbed mountains, saved someone's life, and watched the moon rise over the prairie. His dreams are to walk on Mars, hear a grand piano fall into an orchestra pit, make more people laugh than cry, and love his wife Becky passionately and forever. In the course of a long, love-filled, productive life, he wants to compose the Great American Symphony, ride the rails, hike the trails, read all of the good books, finally watch *The Godfather*, and storm the castles in the air. He will never write unlistenable music, stop stargazing or lose money in Vegas. Dr. Saunders is Professor of Music and music department chair at Lakeland Community College, where he directs the Lakeland Civic Orchestra. He lives in Willowick with his wife and children.

An Introspective Demeanor is in three movements: Allegro, Adagio Con Moto and Allegro Con Brio, each based on a different Phrygian scale, and with distinct themes introduced by a different member of the ensemble, then developed by the entire group. At the end of the final movement, all three main themes are restated. A vast array of dynamics and wind articulations are employed throughout this work adding to its demeanor.

Caleb Slabaugh is a junior trombone major at Baldwin Wallace University from Hartville, Ohio. He has studied with Richard Stout, Joseph Rodriguez, and Thomas Pylinski. Caleb won both the 2015 and 2016 Wright State Trombone Day Solo Competitions, and was a finalist in the American Trombone Workshop National Solo Competition in 2016.

ProgramNotes

Jack Buddenhagen is a senior trombone performance major at Baldwin Wallace University, from Niagara Falls, New York, where he studied with John Hassleback and Richard Meyers. He is a student of Richard Stout, and plans to pursue a master's in orchestral conducting. His conducting experience includes work at BW and the University of British Columbia.

Vincent Longo is a senior music education major at Baldwin Wallace University from Cleveland, Ohio. He plays trombone and euphonium, and studies both with Richard Stout. While at BW, Vincent has participated in ensembles such as the BW Symphony Orchestra, BW Symphonic Wind Ensemble, BW Jazz Ensemble, the Beech Street Brass Quintet, Empros 5 Jazz Quintet, and the BW Men's Chorus.

Adam Hamrick is a junior music education major at Baldwin Wallace University from South Amherst, Ohio, and is a student of Richard Stout. Adam is in BW's Symphonic Wind Ensemble and the BW Symphony Orchestra. He teaches in the New Horizons Band program at Baldwin Wallace and has taught in the Youth Honors Wind Ensemble Jazz Band and the Baldwin Wallace Men's Chorus.

Native Clevelander **Nicholas Puin** holds degrees from Berklee College of Music and Cleveland State University. His compositions and arrangements have been performed by members of the Cleveland Orchestra, the Cleveland Chamber Symphony, the Cleveland Jazz Orchestra, and the Singing Angels. Mr. Puin has taught general and instrumental music for the Beachwood, Maple Heights, Berea, and Strongsville City Schools. Mr. Puin has been a drum instructor at Motter's Music House in Lyndhurst since 1975. He leads his own ensemble, the Nick Puin Band, which performs in Cleveland and Akron metropolitan areas. Since 1987, Mr. Puin has been the Music Director of the Italian Band of Cleveland, a unique ensemble which performs for Italian church festivals.

The electronic accompaniment for **Cosmos I** is derived from a sound created by Dr. John G. Cramer, a physicist at the University of Washington, who writes, "the idea of synthesizing the Big Bang sound fascinated me. I had a growing desire to hear just what the Big Bang sounded like. So one Saturday morning, I sat down and wrote a 16-line Mathematica program...the Big Bang Sound in the simulation is derived from the sound propagating as compression waves through the plasma/hydrogen medium of the early universe some 100 to 700 thousand years after Big Bang." I took this sound file created by Professor Cramer and expanded it in short, medium, and long durations, adding each to a separate audio track. The fourth track is an electronic swoop that I used in various lengths. The clarinet part is the focal point of the music, with the universe sounds as a backdrop. *Cosmos I* receives its first performance today.

Clarinetist **Richard A. Rayer** retired from teaching music after having taught in Mentor Public Schools, Glenbard West High School in Illinois, and Eastlake North High School. He has an undergraduate degree in music education from Kent State University where he studied clarinet with Fred Cohen and a master's in clarinet performance from Northwestern University where he studied clarinet with Jerry Stowell. He has performed with the Lakeland Civic Orchestra, Lakeland Civic Band, the Oakpark Civic Orchestra, and the Cleveland Philharmonic.

William F. Rayer is a composer, trumpet player, author, and painter. He is a member of the Cleveland Composers Guild, ASCAP, and the International Trumpet Guild. He holds a bachelor's degree in music education from Kent State University and a master's in composition from Cleveland State University. His works have been performed by the Ohio Chamber Orchestra, Lakeland Civic Band, Lakeland Civic Orchestra, and the Lorain Civic Orchestra. In 2012 he was commissioned to write a work called *Celebration Overture* for Symphony West Orchestra commemorating that group's 50th anniversary. In early 2015 he had a trumpet solo premiered in Paris, France. He performs regularly as the principle trumpet of the Lorain Civic Orchestra, the Broadale Brass Sextet and the Vermilion Civic Band. He has completed three novels called *The Reach Beyond Tomorrow*, *The Legacy of Pnomos* and *The Lost Clan*, available separately at Lulu.com.
