MONTCLAIR STATE UNIVERSITY WIND SYMPHONY AND SYMPHONIC BAND IN CONCERT

Dr. Thomas McCauley, conductor

with special guest

DOREEN KETCHENS

ALEXANDER KASSER THEATER

Friday, November 1, 2024 7:30pm

CALI IMMERSIVE **RESIDENCY** PROGRAM

Daniel GurskisDean, College of the Arts

Anthony Mazzocchi Director

John J. Cali School of Music





PROGRAM

Fearless Carol Brittin Chambers

Joshua Jenkins, graduate student conductor

Dear Heart Ayatey Shabazz

Abby Ferri, graduate student conductor

Slava! Leonard Bernstein

arr. Clare Grundman

Montclair State University Symphonic Band Dr. Thomas McCauley, *conductor*

SHORT INTERMISSION

Soul to Soul Quinn Mason

Nicholas Mossa, graduate student conductor

Come Sunday Omar Thomas

I. Testimony II. Shout!

Montclair State University Wind Symphony Dr. Thomas McCauley, conductor

(short stage change)

House of the Rising Sun Gordon / arr. Dickey

Just a Closer Walk with Thee Morris / arr. Dickey

What a Wonderful World Weiss and Theil / arr. Weiss

When the Saints Come Marching In James M. Black / arr. Dickey

Doreen Ketchens, soloist

Accompanied by both the

Montclair State University Wind Symphony
and Symphonic Band

NOTES ON THE PROGRAM

Fearless

Audacious. Confident. Bold. Daring. Courageous. Unafraid. While each of these words means something slightly different, all adjectives can be felt, heard, and understood in composer, arranger, and educator Carol Brittin Chambers's "Fearless." Written in 2023, the opening of "Fearless" heralds and heroically declares for continuing onward. After the opening flourishes in the brass and percussion, the melodic and rhythmic forward motion suggests courage despite darkness, uncertainty, and distress. Commissioned by the Union Country Bandmasters Association, NC All County Honors Band, Chambers explains: "We all face challenges in our life and sometimes we find ourselves having to move out of our comfort zone in order to face them. This piece is dedicated to those moments, when we are able to dig down deep and find the resolve, courage, and strength that we need to keep going."

Born in Lubbock, Texas in 1970, Chambers received a Bachelor of Music Education degree from Texas Tech University and a Master of Music in Trumpet Performance from Northwestern University (where she studied with Vincent Cichowicz, Arnold Jacobs, John Paynter, Will Strieder, and James Sudduth). Currently serving as a faculty member at Texas Lutheran University, Chambers taught band for many years in the North East Independent School District, in San Antonio, Texas. As a composer, Chambers owns Aspenwood Music, LLC. Commissioned each year to compose and arrange works for various ensembles, her music sits on J.W. Pepper Editor's Choice List and the Bandworld Top 100 and has been performed at state educator conferences across the country, including the Midwest Clinic in Chicago. She has arranged and orchestrated marching shows for numerous high school and college bands across the country, as well as The Crossmen Drum Corps. Chambers was named the winner of the 2019 WBDI (Women Band Directors International) Composition Competition.

Dear Heart

Imagine being able to speak to your younger self: What would you say? What wisdom would you impart? How would you say it? "Dear Heart" musically considers such imaginings and speaks openly, honestly, and soulfully from self-to-self. In addition, the piece asks listeners to consider their own introspective journeys. A native of Biloxi, MS, and an accomplished composer, arranger, educator (of beginning through high school band), and clinician, Ayatey Shabazz (b. 1971) received his formal training from the University of Southern Mississippi. Active as an arranger and composer for many high school and college music programs,

as well as creating music for drum corps, jazz, film and television projects, Shabazz conducts clinics, adjudicates concert festivals and marching band contests, and is a Pro-Mark endorsed educator.

Slava!

The world-renowned conductor, composer, pianist, music educator, and humanitarian Leonard Bernstein (1918-1990) projects an enormous legacy across various domains of music's professions. Few triumphed like him; Bernstein helped shape, mold, and innovate nearly every musical profession he touched. Notably, amidst personal and political frustrations—such as balancing life as an artist with being a husband and father; left-leaning allegiances despite right-wing slanderous attacks—and uncertainties connected to his own contradictory natures as well as being incredibly critical of himself despite an overt ego. Bernstein managed to do the impossible: remain true to his sense of purpose. As he stated in 1942, though equally true regardless of the when and where of his life: "These are certainly times of trial for me; but I know that if I can come through this period of adjustment and difficulty, all will be well, and I will be better for it."

In the spirit of triumphing over adversity sits Bernstein's concert overture for orchestra, "Slava! A Political Overture." Illustrating expressive magnificence, as the Russian word "slava" can be translated as an act of glory and admiration, this piece celebrates another spirit dedicated to his art, humanity, and beyond: Cellist and conductor Mstislav (known as "Slava," to his friends) Rostropovich. Completed in 1977, Rostropovich, then Musical Director of the National Symphony Orchestra, invited Bernstein to share the stage at the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, D.C. as both composer and conductor. "Slava!" held its own at that concert (which included a suite created from his music for the film. On the Waterfront, conducted by Rostropovich, as well as Three Meditations from "Mass," for cello and orchestra, performed by Rostropovich and conducted by Bernstein).

Leaning into Rostropovich's personality, Clare Grundman's transcription for concert band showcases the "Slava" sections from the original orchestral piece and leaves aside the political sentiments. The setting opens (as marked in the score, "Fast and Flamboyant") with an overt and extroverted first theme, written spiritedly like a vaudevillian showstopping number (listen for the sliding trombones that assert modulations that never fully land, as well as allusions to Bernstein's "Gee, Officer Krupke" from *West Side Story*). Theme two commences in 7/8 (2 + 2 + 3). Music appreciators who know Mussorgsky's *Boris Godonov* will recognize a musical quotation from that opera's coronation scene

(where the chorus sings the word "Slava"). Overall, this piece is a gift from Bernstein to Rostropovich, one celebrated and complex artist to another.

Soul to Soul

Composed in 2017 and revised in 2019 to pay homage to composer David Maslanka, "Soul to Soul" premiered by Purdue University Symphonic Band under the direction of Dr. Jonathan Sweet. As its creator explained, "Soul to Soul is an elegy for wind ensemble written in the memory of David Maslanka (1943-2017), who I had the pleasure of working closely with for a brief period in February 2017. The work is a tribute to Dr. Maslanka and his unique style of writing for wind ensemble, complete with chorales and hopeful trumpet fanfares. In addition to the chorales, this piece also contains a quote from his 8th symphony."

Based in Dallas, Texas, composer and conductor Quinn Mason (b. 1996) previously served as the Hartford Symphony Orchestra's Artist in Residence. His orchestral music has been commissioned and performed by over 170 orchestras in the US and Europe, including by the San Francisco Symphony, Minnesota Orchestra, Detroit Symphony, Cincinnati Symphony, Dallas Symphony, Utah Symphony, in Europe by the Orchestra Sinfonica Nazionale della RAI and many more. He has received numerous awards from the American Composers Forum. ASCAP Voices of Change, and was also named as a finalist for 2020's Texan of the Year. As a conductor. he has worked with Jukka-Pekka Saraste. Esa-Pekka Salonen, Marin Alsop, Gerard Schwarz, and Miguel Harth-Bedoya, and has guest conducted many orchestras around the country, including the National Symphony Orchestra and West Virginia Symphony Orchestra.

Come Sunday

After receiving a Bachelor of Music in Music Education from James Madison University, a Master of Music from the New England Conservatory, and studying composition with Ken Schaphorst and Frank Carlberg, as well as the Grammy-winning composer and bandleader Maria Schneider, Brooklyn born composer, arranger, trombonist, and educator Omar Thomas (b. 1984) has been commissioned by diverse ensembles such as the Eastman New Jazz Ensemble, the San Francisco and Boston Gay Mens' Choruses, and the Colorado Symphony Orchestra. Writing music across classical and jazz styles, Thomas' musical ethos defies categorization, at times fusing

gospel, jazz, Latin, blues, and classical idioms. Because of this, his music evokes a worldly cosmopolitanism, whether he is writing music about LGTBQ+ identity, civil rights, or social unrest.

Written in 2018, "Come Sunday" is a two-movement tribute to a specific instrument that impacted Black worship services, namely the Hammond organ. As explained by Thomas: "The first movement, Testimony, follows the Hammond organ as it readies the congregation's hearts, minds, and spirits to receive The Word via a magical union of Bach, blues, jazz, and R&B. The second movement, Shout!, is a virtuosic celebration - the frenzied and joyous climactic moments when The Spirit has taken over the service.

The title is a direct nod to Duke Ellington, who held an inspired love for classical music and allowed it to influence his own work in a multitude of ways. To all the black musicians in wind ensemble who were given opportunity after opportunity to celebrate everyone else's music but our own - I see you and I am you. This one's for the culture!"

While it is not customary for jazz shows and New Orleans musical engagements to include program notes, the following brief remarks might be of interest to some listeners.

Commissioned by the Dallas Winds for Doreen Ketchens, "House of the Rising Sun" (arranged by Drew Dickey) is a song traditionally known as "Rising Sun Blues," made famous in 1964 by The Animals. The song's original lyrics speak about a woman warning young girls about the grittiness and corruptions that can befall them should they not be aware of potential ruin. Filled with extended clarinet techniques and plentiful chromatic glissandos, the arrangement highlights the New Orleans landscape, one that is colorful and edgy, while also spicy, gritty, and devilishly seductive.

The secular (historically considered somewhat scandalous) nature of jazz cannot dismiss its roots in varied Black spiritual traditions, with hymns that grace its practices. Indeed, one such hymn, "Just a Closer Walk with Thee" (arranged again by Dickey), can be traced back to the Black church. As the song's lyrics state: "When my weary life is over / Pain and suffering are no more / Who will lead me safely o'er / Canaan's shore, that sweet Canaan's shore?"

New Orleans trumpeter Louis Armstrong prominently influenced jazz in the 1920s and beyond; his legacy continues today. "What a

Wonderful World" is part of Armstrong's legacy. Written at a time during political upheaval in the United States—such as the heights of the Civil Rights movement as well as protests of the Vietnam War-record producer Robert Thiele and arranger George David Weiss knew of Armstrong's abilities to build bridges with his music. TThey wrote "What a Wonderful World" and, in 1967, helped Armstrona record it. Armstrong soon added "What a Wonderful World" to his live performances, Sadly, it didn't become a hit in the United States until 1988. Despite this early treatment in American popular culture (as the song made an immediate and incredible impact abroad), its tenor has certainly lasted and impacted this country's spirit far and wide.

To close, the Black spiritual "When the Saints Come Marching In" sings out and rejoices. One of the most requested jazz songs, many artists across jazz and gospel music have recorded it including Armstrong, Mahalia Jackson, Fats Domino, and Bunk Johnson. The lyrics say it all:

When the Saints go marching in When the Saints go marching in Lord, how I want to be in that number When the Saints go marching in

And when the sun refuses to shine When the sun refuses to shine Lord, how I want to be in that number When the Saints go marching in

We are all traveling in the footsteps Of those that'd come before And we'll all be reunited On that new and sunlit shore

When the Saints go marching in When the Saints go marching in Lord, how I want to be in that number When the Saints go marching in

Program notes by Dr. Marissa Silverman

ABOUT THE SOLOIST

Doreen Ketchens has been called Lady Louie, Miss Satchmo & The Female Louis Armstrong, to name a few. However, on May 26, 2022, Doreen, was honored with a Doctorate degree, in music from Five Towns College, in Long Island New York. Now she is Dr. Doreen J. Ketchens! Dr. Doreen has changed the way scholars view their clarinets. She has successfully created her own style that blends her classical training with the soul of jazz.

Her intense passion gets under your skin and brings you to a new place. Be it Gospel, Blues, R&B, Classical or Jazz. Dr. Doreen Ketchens can rock her clarinet on many levels, then sing like a songbird on a sunny day. Dr. Doreen has been called many names because, she plays like Charlie "Bird" Parker, sings like Mahalia Jackson, and has the chops and personality of Louis Armstrong. Dr. Doreen Ketchens, can be found in numerous radio and television shows, including Treme, on HBO, Drunk History, music videos and movies, including Out of Blue, Come On, Come On, Tyler Perry's Temptation, and recently on Jimmy Kimmel Live and CBS Sunday Morning.

ABOUT THE CONDUCTORS

Joshua Jenkins is the Director of Bands at Ramsey High School in Ramsey, New Jersey where he has been since 2020. His responsibilities at Ramsey High School include directing the Ramsey High School Wind Ensemble, the Ramsey "Big Blue" Band and Guard, and teaching instrumental lessons for grades 9-12. Previously, he was the assistant band director in the Vernon Township school district in Vernon. NJ and the band director at Brooklawn Middle School in Parsippany, NJ. Mr. Jenkins has a Bachelors in Music Education from Ithaca College where he studied French horn with Professor Alexander Shuhan. Currently, Joshua is pursuing his Masters degree at Montclair State University in Wind Conducting where he studies with Dr. Thomas McCauley.

Mr. Jenkins attributes much of his musical success to the marching arts. He is the mellophone technician at the Sacramento Mandarins Drum and Bugle Corps from Sacramento, California as well as the Brass Caption Head of the Hawthorne Caballeros Drum and Bugle Corps from Hawthorne, New Jersey. He was a member of the Caballeros from 2008-2012 and then went on to perform with the Carolina Crown Drum and Bugle Corps in 2013 and 2014.

Mr. Jenkins' professional affiliations include the MEBCI (Music Educators of Bergen County Inc.), the New Jersey Music Educators Association, and the National Association for Music Education. He is an active performer and has performed with the New Jersey Wind Symphony and is currently a member of the Sussex County Brass Quintet.

Abby Ferri is in her 5th year of teaching 4th and 5th grade band at Washington Irving Intermediate School Tarrytown, NY, where she also co-teaches the jazz band and conducts the high school pit orchestra. In 2022, Abby was selected from among band directors across the state to conduct at the New York State Band Directors Association Conducting Symposium with clinician Jack Stamp. As a flutist, Abby was a member of the Hudson Valley Symphonic Wind Ensemble, and performed the 50th Anniversary of Karel Husa's Music for Prague with the Ithaca College Wind Ensemble at Lincoln Center in 2019. This past summer, Abby presented at the Conn Selmer Institute Eastern Conference about commissioning multi-level music for band, and Abby's 2023 commissioning project, Sparks Burn Brightly Among the Skies, composed by Bruce Tippette, was recently published by Wingert Jones. Abby earned a BM in Music Education from Ithaca College, and is currently in the MM Performance - Concentration in Conducting Program at Montclair State University in the conducting studio of Dr. Thomas McCauley. When she is not getting an adrenaline rush from conducting music, she loves to ski double-black slopes in Vermont.

Nicholas Mossa currently serves as a band director at Bridgewater Raritan High School and has enjoyed teaching music in the Bridgewater Raritan community since 2012. He is currently pursuing his graduate degree in Wind Band Conducting at Montclair State University, and serves as the associate conductor of the Wind Symphony. At BRHS, Mr. Mossa is the director of the Marching Band and Symphonic Band, assistant director of the Wind Ensemble, and co-director of the Concert Band. A devoted advocate for music education, Mr. Mossa also oversees the Winter Guard and Indoor Percussion Ensembles as the director of the Marching Arts Programs, and also directs the Tuesday Jazz Band & Clarinet Choir.

Mr. Mossa also has an extensive performance background as a clarinetist, including professional appearances with the Mid-Atlantic Symphony Orchestra, Adelphi Orchestra, and the Central Park Orchestra. Mr. Mossa has also been recognized as a featured soloist with the Montclair State University Symphony Orchestra and at Windhaven in Vermont. Additional performances have included concerts in Providence, Boston, Baltimore, Chicago, Shanghai, and New York City. Mr. Mossa is a member of the Eastern Wind Symphony and enjoys performances throughout the tri-state area each season.

Mr. Mossa's professional affiliations include the New Jersey Association for Jazz Education, Central Jersey Music Educators Association, New Jersey Music Educators Association, and the National Association for Music Education, and is also the championships Co-Chair for the New Jersey Marching Band Directors Association.

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, the Symphonic Band, 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.

Dr. McCauley has appeared as a clinician at the Midwest Clinic in Chicago on three different occasions, and ensembles under his direction have appeared at national and regional conventions and conferences. In February of 2019, Dr. McCauley led the Montclair State Wind Symphony in concert at the 2019 CBDNA national conference in Tempe, Arizona. And the appearance of the Montclair State Wind Symphony at the WASBE International Conference in Prague, Czech Republic in July of 2022 was the first in the school's history.

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. In 1995, the Nevada Music Educators 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 earned undergraduate and graduate degrees in Music Education from the University of Nevada-Las Vegas, and holds a D.M.A. in conducting from Northwestern University.

THE 2024-2025 MONTCLAIR STATE UNIVERSITY SYMPHONIC BAND

(in seating order)

FLUTE

Arianna Nguyen-Habernesti, Woodwind Doubling, Missoula, MT Evell Williams IV, Music Education, Passaic, NJ Judit Garcia, Music Education, Montclair, NJ Samantha Price, Music Education, Bayonne, NJ Milo Berntsen, Music Theory & Composition, Staten Island, NY Julianna Taveras-Garcia, Music Performance, Bronx, NY

OBOE

Elizabeth Sheeran, Business Administration, Sparta, NJ Dylan Slattery, Music Education, Hazlet, NJ

BASSOON

JoAnee Murray, Music Performance, West Harrison, NY Tyler Skelly, Music Education, Rockaway, NJ Bennett Gerhart, Music Performance, Redding, CT

Bb CLARINET

Lilly Chabla Cortes, Music Education, West Orange, NJ Bianca Avalos, Music Performance, New York City, NY Janelys Guzman, Music Education, New York, NY Mackenzie Brown, Music Education, Manville, NJ Kayla Pacheco, Music Therapy, Fair Lawn, NJ

BASS CLARINET

Cvrus Waugh, Music Education, Elizabeth, NJ

ALTO SAXOPHONE

Frank DiBari, Music Performance, Middletown, NJ Alex Hernandez, Music Education, Hazlet, NJ Matthew Flechas, Jazz Education, Elizabeth, NJ Angelina Ferraioli, Music Education, Staten Island, NY Giovanna Limaldi, Music Education, Howell Township, NJ

Mario Hernandez, Music Education, Staten Island, NY Katie Sorrentino, Music Education, Bayonne, NJ

TENOR SAXOPHONE

Holden Hutchinson, Music Education, Frenchtown, NJ

BARITONE SAXOPHONE

TRUMPET

Daniel Ospino, Music Education, Paramus, NJ Aiden Carr, Music Education, Bayonne, NJ Taymar Garlington, Music Education, Staten Island, NY Chris Harle, Music Education, Dumont, NJ Daniel Lopez, Music Education, Montclair, NJ

TROMBONE

Dayla Spencer, Music Composition, Nashville, TN James Quinn, Music Education, Staten Island, NY

BASS TROMBONE

Josh Woolard, Music Education, Plainfield, NJ

EUPHONIUM

Tina Salomone, Music Education, Staten Island, NY Samuel Yoon, Music Education, Hackensack, NJ

TUBA

Isaac Galang, Music Education, North Bergen, NJ Carlos Chuqui-Minchala, Music Education, Hackensack, NJ

PERCUSSION

Nikiforos Pothos, Music Education, Bridgewater, NJ Nicholas Caiazza, Music Composition, Fair Lawn, NJ Domingo Hernandez, Music Education, Toms River, NJ Isabella Cruz, Music Education, Bayonne, NJ Hannah D'elia, Music Education, Bridgewater, NJ Zach Doberentz, Music Education, Toms River, NJ Daniel Giermanski, Music Composition, Pequannock, NJ Rolan Bansil, Music Performance, Ridgewood, NJ

THE 2024-2025 MONTCLAIR STATE UNIVERSITY WIND SYMPHONY

(in alphabetical order)

FLUTE

Klaudia Acevedo, *Music Education, Elizabeth, NJ* Luiza Ribeiro, *Music Performance, João Pessoa, Brazil* Anaya Torrence, *Music Performance, Brooklyn, NY*

PICCOLO

Jacob Medina, Artist Diploma, Allentown, PA

OBOE

Quinten Hansen, Woodwind Doubling, Palmer, AK Iva Verba, Music Performance, Brooklyn, NY

ENGLISH HORN

David Reinstein. Music Education. New Milford. NJ

BASSOON

Jonathan Hart, Woodwind Doubling, Miller Place, NY Taylor Lee, Woodwind Doubling, Anaheim, CA Jamie Staton, Woodwind Doubling, Raleigh, NC

CONTRABASSOON

Darren Butler, Music Education, Jackson, NY

Eb CLARINET

Luke Carbon, Woodwind Doubling, Melbourne, AU

Bb CLARINET

Basil Blasa, Music Education, Bayonne, NJ
Nicolette DiBari, Music Composition, Middletown, NJ
Ben Harris, Woodwind Doubling, Paramus, NJ
Emmett Miller, Music Performance, New York City, NY
Tristan Shafran, Woodwind Doubling, Saddle Brook, NJ
Erin Smith, Woodwind Doubling, League City, TX
Ashley Wallis, Music Education, Hopatcong, NJ

BASS CLARINET

Zarina Campos, Music Education, Morristown, NJ

CONTRABASS CLARINET

Maria Taveras, Music Performance, Bronx, NY

SOPRANO SAXOPHONE

Jaehyuk Lee, Music Performance, Fort Lee, NJ

ALTO SAXOPHONE

Lucas Harvey, Music Education, Mount Olive, NJ

TENOR SAXOPHONE

Lily Kearney, Music Performance, Clifton, NJ

BARITONE SAXOPHONE

Ariana Giammance, Music Education, Wyckoff, NJ

FRENCH HORN

Jeison Campoverde, *Music Education, Hackensack, NJ* Josh Jenkins, *Conducting, Fair Lawn, NJ* Faith Santana, *Music Education, Rutherford, NJ* Sheldon Senek, *Music Education, West Orange, NJ*

TRUMPET

Gianna Ciaburri, *Music Performance, Staten Island, NY*Gabriel Chalick, *Jazz Performance, Naples, FL*Clifton Little, *Artist Diploma, Dallas, TX*Ashley Martin, *Music Education, Jackson, NJ*John Rivas, *Music Education, Clifton, NJ*Will Schetelich, *Music Education, Scotch Plains, NJ*

TROMBONE

Nicholas Andrade, *Music Performance, Roxbury, NJ*Aidan Andreoli, *Music Performance, Owasso, OK*James Boland, *Artist Diploma, Hamilton, NJ*Hairo Cesar, *Music Education, Corona Queens, NY*

EUPHONIUM

Victoria Ortega, Music Education, Staten Island, NY James Quinn, Music Education, Staten Island, NY

TUBA

JT Adinolfi, Music Education, Chester, NJ John Bergner, Music Education, Jackson, NJ

DOUBLE BASS

Dom Carnival, Jazz Performance, Manhattan, NY

PERCUSSION

Rolan Bansil, *Music Performance, Ridgewood, NJ* Isabella Cruz, *Music Education, Bayonne, NJ* Hannah D'elia, *Music Education, Bridgewater, NJ* Zach Doberentz, *Music Education, Toms River, NJ* Domingo Hernandez, *Music Education, Toms River, NJ* Nikiforos Pothos, *Music Education, Bridgewater, NJ*

PIANO

Youn-Hee Kim, Faculty