

School of Music, Theatre and Dance
Oakland University

Oakland University
Brass Band
and
Oakland Youth
Brass Band

Kenneth Kroesche and Jennifer Oliverio, conductors

Flagstar Strand Theatre for the Performing Arts
Pontiac, Michigan

Sunday, April 3, 2022
3 p.m.

PROGRAM

Oakland University Brass Band

Facets of the Heart

Tom Davoren

A Selection to be announced from the stage.

A Sweet Shepherdess from *Cross Patonce*

Goff Richards

Knight Templar

George Allan

Kenneth Kroesche, conductor

Intermission

Oakland Youth Brass Band

Deep Harmony

Handel Parker
arranged by A. Broadhead

Star Lake

Eric Ball

Embers

Tom Davoren

Dark Side of the Moon

Paul Lovatt-Cooper

Jennifer Oliverio, conductor

Program Notes

Facets of the Heart

Tom Davoren (b. 1986)

Tom Davoren is a conductor and composer with a growing international reputation. He began his conducting career with the BTM Band from South Wales, in the United Kingdom, and has since held positions with Britain's famous Desford Colliery and Fairey Bands, as well as Bristol's Filton Concert Brass, with whom he won a National Championship title in 2014. In 2015 he directed Maidstone Wind Symphony to British National Concert Band Championship honors, served as conductor to the National Youth Brass Band of Wales in 2016, and has appeared as a guest conductor in Austria, Lithuania, Norway, Sweden, the United States, Canada, Japan, and South Korea. He led conducting students and directed bands at the University of Salford from 2015 - 2019.

He holds Bachelors and Masters degrees in composition from Cardiff University School of Music, where in 2009/10 he was awarded a research scholarship from the Arts and Humanities Research Council and the Welsh Livery Guild Composition Award. He was also a BASCA British Composer Award nominee in 2011, a prizewinner at the EBBA European Composers Competition 2012, the recipient of a Harvey Phillips Award for excellence in composition, presented by the International Tuba Euphonium Association, in 2014, and winner of the American National Band Association 'Merrill Jones' Composition Contest in 2020.

Tom's music for band has been premiered, recorded and commissioned by artists including 'The President's Own' United States Marine Band, Central Band of the Royal Air Force, Brass Band of Battle Creek, Cory Band, Jens Lindemann, Steven Mead, and Glenn Van Looy. Memorable performances include New York's Carnegie Hall, the College Band Directors National Association National Conference, BASBWE London Festival, Royal Northern College of Music Festival of Brass, World Music Contest (Kerkrade), Jeju International Wind Ensemble Festival (South Korea), International Tuba Euphonium Association Conferences, International Trumpet Guild Conferences, and the solo and band sections of the National Championships of New Zealand, Australia and Great Britain. He has a special relationship with the Belgian ensemble Brassband Buizingen, acting as their Associate Composer through 2015 / 16 and became Composer in Residence with the Band of the Welsh Guards, of the Household Division of the British Army, in 2019. He is currently a Doctoral Teaching Assistant in Wind Conducting at the University of Kansas, working with Dr. Paul Popiel.

Facets of the Heart was commissioned for the 2015 Butlins Mineworkers' Brass Band Championships. The composer offers the following regarding the piece: "Created during a somewhat turbulent period in my life, the concept behind *Facets of the Heart* has changed considerably between inception and completion. The result is a musical representation of three lesser considered but, none the less, extremely important aspects of love, set against their natural opposites. Running in three continuous sections, the chosen aspects are Fear, Pain & Comfort and Doubt & Courage.

If there was a particular goal in composing this piece it would not necessarily be the imparting of my own experiences on others. Rather than the process of composition ending on completion of the score, I see *Facets of the Heart* as a continuing collaboration. I hope that those engaging with music, as performers or listeners, will find it inspires enough personal relevance to bring a performance to life. In an effort to achieve this I have left the shaping of musical line with points of expression and

rubato very much open to interpretation. This said, the integrity of each line and mood set by timbre are detailed more specifically in my choice of phrasing, instrumental balance and muted textures.”

A Sweet Shepherdess

Goff Richards (1944-2011)

Goff Richards was born in Cornwall and after studying at the Royal College of Music and Reading University, he embarked on a career as a composer, arranger and conductor. His works have been performed by the King’s Singers, the Swingle Singers, various BBC Orchestras, Huddersfield Choral Society, London Brass, Evelyn Glennie, Benjamin Luxon and all leading brass and military bands.

In addition to having written extensively for BBC Radio and Television, from 1976 - 1989, he taught Arranging and directed the Jazz Orchestra at Salford College of Technology. For his contribution to band music throughout the world, the College awarded him an Honorary Doctorate degree.

This is the second movement from the larger work, *Cross Patonce* which was commissioned by Pilkington pic for the 1990 North West Open Brass Band Championships. It is an adaptation of an old French ‘regret’ from the Auvergne called ‘Une gente bergère’ which tells of a lost love and would have been performed on special occasions such as weddings and festivals.

Knight Templar

George Allan (1864-1930)

George Allan was a composer and arranger of music for brass bands who was born, and resided for most of his life, in New Shildon, County Durham, United Kingdom. As a youth he was a choirboy at All Saints Church in Shildon and learned to sing using solfege. His choirmaster encouraged to join the New Shildon Juvenile Brass Band under the direction of Edward Dinsdale, where he played baritone horn and tenor horn. He would later go on to become the bandmaster of the New Shildon Saxhorn Band and New Shildon Temperance Brass Band. As his town’s leading musician, he would also become the conductor of the orchestra of the New Shildon All Saints Amateur Operatic Society.

It was for these groups that he composed numerous concert works and dance music, however he is best known for the 70 marches he wrote for brass band. Among these contest marches, which are designed to highlight a band’s soloists as well as the playing of each section, *The Wizard* and *Senator* are favorites among musicians. Likewise, his *Knight Templar* stands above the rest of his marches not only for its sections that contrast between the playing of solos, duets and full throated tutti sections, but also for how the piece sounds like a concert overture. As the march unfolds, each section of the march might be thought of as a crusade by the Knight Templar with main sections ending with an Amen. It’s also striking and no accident that the strain leading to the march’s recapitulation (or Da Capo) sounds like a solemn hymn tune.

Star Lake

Eric Ball (1909-1989)

Composer, Eric Ball, provides following comments about his march, Star Lake: “In 1937, I was privileged to be a guest at the Salvation Army’s Music Camp held at Star Lake, New Jersey - a very happy experience indeed. For the camp’s A Band this March written, very hurriedly, with a squad of

copyists sitting round the desk waiting for each new page of the score to be handed to them. The piece was written, rehearsed and given a public performance within a few hours, amidst idyllic surroundings and with a certain amount of enthusiasm. What more could a composer desire? Apart from one or two changes of rhythm, the present version is little different from the original, except that at first the cornet trio work at section D was made so difficult that even the very efficient soloists of the Camp Band could not make it sound like music! The march is light-hearted throughout, is to be played at a brisk speed, and must never become heavy, labored, very loud or serious.”

Embers

Tom Davoren (b. 1986)

Composed in 2015, *Embers* is a short, lyrical concert work which evokes the subtle glow of a campfire just after the final flame has withered. The piece received its official premiere in Gothenburg on November 7th, 2015 and was performed by the Windcorp Band at their 10th Jubilee concert and conducted by the composer. An original sketch for this piece was composed for Belgian conductor, bass trombonist and friend of the composer, Geert Van Looy.

Dark Side of the Moon

Paul Lovatt-Cooper (b. 1976)

Dark Side of the Moon was commissioned by Dr. Nicholas Childs and the Black Dyke Band on behalf of Rotary International for the performance at St. David's Hall, Cardiff on January 27th, 2007. It was later selected as the 2008 Third Section for the Regional Brass Band Championships of Great Britain. The piece is dedicated to the composer's father, Harry Cooper.

The composer provides the following description of his piece: “Have you ever thought of a holiday destination, tourist attraction, event, place, site or period in history and thought ‘I wonder what it would be like?’ - somewhere you have never been and can only let your imagination run wild on. What would the place be like, and all the things surrounding it such as the mood, feelings you get experiencing it, the temperature? Who would be there and what you would see?

This piece is my musical imagination of the dark side of the moon.

I know from news reports, the internet and other footage that the moon is a very desolate place, very barren and rugged. So from the start the piece gives the listener a musical picture of the rugged landscape with little light and warmth. However, the one place that has had me thinking about is the side of the moon that we don't see in our night skies, the side of the moon with no sun and with no light pollution from civilization. I can only imagine the eeriness one would feel being stood in complete darkness on the moon's surface looking around.

As you slowly explore the surroundings and your eyes drift up to the night sky, there is an awesome sight unfolding in front of you - countless stars and galaxies, planets and different solar systems and all right in front of you glistening from the light of the sun beaming from the other side of the

moon. The dark side of the moon portrays a musical picture of the whole experience as seen in my imagination taking the listener from the rugged landscape to the awesome beauty that sits endlessly in front of you.”

The Oakland University Brass Band

The Oakland University Brass Band, formed in September of 2009, enjoys the distinction of being one of the few collegiate brass bands in the country. The members of the group come from across the state of Michigan, as well as the United States and Canada. In October, the band was featured in an article for *Brass Band World* which is an internationally distributed magazine about brass bands. This past March, the band was named the University Section winners of the 2021 Kapitol Cory Online Brass Band Championships. In addition, they were the winners of the Best Cornet Section Award.

They are the 2019 and 2018 Dublin (OH) Festival of Brass Champions where they consistently swept all three categories of Best March, Best Slow Melody and Best Major Work. In 2018, adjudicator Steven Mead commented that “it was wonderful to hear such an authentic ‘English’ sound to the ensemble - rich, textured and homogeneous and the performance of ‘Essence of Time’ in particular was a joy.” In 2015 they accepted an invitation to travel to England to perform in the Butlin’s National Mineworkers Open Brass Band Festival & Competition. While there, the band was awarded 2nd place in their division and now holds the distinction of being the highest placing American band in the history of the competition. This invitation was extended as a result of having won the First Section of the North American Brass Band Association Championships in 2014 in Grand Rapids, MI. In June of 2015, the band performed at the Great American Brass Band Festival in Danville, Kentucky where they gave three featured concerts. The festival is known for being the largest brass band event of its kind in North America, with audiences in the tens of thousands in attendance each summer. In May of that same year, they were the featured band at Mid-West Tuba Euphonium Conference at Bowling Green State University in Ohio, where they accompanied the conference’s headline soloists.

The band is comprised primarily of undergraduate and graduate music majors and non-majors. Graduates of the school’s brass and percussion programs have gone on to receive scholarships to attend the country’s leading graduate music programs, as well as perform in major professional ensembles.

[Oakland University Brass Band - YouTube](#)

[Oakland University Brass Band | Facebook](#)

Oakland Youth Brass Band
Jennifer Oliverio, conductor
Mattheas Boelter, OU Percussion Coach
Noah McDonald, OU Brass Coach

Soprano Cornet

Jordan Berg +

Solo Cornet

Jacob Miazek

Andy Lasceski

Alexis Dill +

Nicole Tremonti +

Repiano Cornet

Michael McMartin

Second Cornet

Julio Peralta

Sara Zebrowski

Parker Eckman +

Third Cornet

Alejandro Zorrilla

Daniel Voss

Flugelhorn

Sohum Kapoor

Shannon Sheldrick +

Solo Horn

Charlotte Heck

First Horn

Aiden Sage

Second Horn

Jonathon Esbri +

First Baritone

Libby Louvar

Second Baritone

Chris Warren +

Trombone

Makenzie Barber

William Raleigh

Paul Anthony Gratti

Bass Trombone

Isabelle Rakowski

Benjamin Do

Euphonium

Brenna Jackson

Lucy Lagman

Iyla Miller +

E-flat Tuba

Van Bellomo

Noah McDonald +

B-flat Tuba

Ian Mills

Caden Dunikowski

Brian Wiik +

Percussion

Ari Medvinsky

Sarah MacDonald

Ryan Whitehead

+ denotes OU Student

Oakland University Brass Band
Kenneth Kroesche, conductor

Soprano Cornet

Jordan Berg

Solo Cornet

Alexis Dill *

Anna Greyerbiehl

Carlo Perez-Hijar

Thomas Corbett

Repiano Cornet

Nicole Tremonti

Second Cornet

Parker Eckman

Zachary Merkle

Third Cornet

Jacob Packard

Zachary Musienko

Christopher Rother

Flugelhorn

Shannon Sheldrick

Solo Horn

Derek Kolp

First Horn

Jonathon Esbri

Second Horn

Jessie Pruehs

First Baritone

Chris Warren

Second Baritone

Andrew Pettit

Trombone

Mabelynn Dill *

Dustin Freeman

Bass Trombone

Josh Tobias

Euphonium

Iyla Miller *

James Long

E-flat Tuba

Brandon Thibault *

Brian Wiik

B-flat Tuba

Noah McDonald *

Tyler Schreiber

Percussion

Taylor Atkinson

Kyle Paoletti

Mattheas Boelter

Collin Arena

* denotes principal player