

Poinsett Wind Symphony

Leslie W. Hicken and Jay A. Bocook, *directors*

Music from “Far and Away”

McAlister Auditorium
Friday, March 10, 2017
8:00 p.m.

Program

Gloriana (2015).....Jay Bocook (b. 1953)

Gloriana, commissioned by Furman University for the inauguration of its 12th President, is based on *The Faerie Queene*, an incomplete English epic poem written by Edmund Spenser and dedicated to Queen Elizabeth I. In the poem, Queen Elizabeth is represented as the Faerie Queene herself, Gloriana. The poem was published in six separate books, with each book representing one of six virtues: Holiness, Temperance, Chastity, Friendship, Justice, and Courtesy. The unfinished seventh book represents the virtue of Constancy. Later, in letters to Sir Walter Raleigh, Spenser suggests that the Faerie Queene herself, having achieved all of the other virtues, represents Glory, hence the name, Gloriana.

-Hannah Carlson

Second Suite in F (Op. 28, No. 2) (1911).....Gustav Holst (1874-1934)

Gustav Holst, an English composer and arranger, studied piano and composition at the Royal College of Music in London. After hearing Henry Purcell's *Dido and Aeneas* for the first time, Holst found himself searching for a "musical idiom of the English language," which led him to seek inspiration from the folk song revival of the early 20th century.

The first movement of the suite, "March," combines a traditional Morris dance with two other English folk songs, "Swansea Town," and "Claudy Banks." Movement two, "Song Without Words: 'I'll love my love,'" tells the story of two lovers who have been separated by their parents. The third movement, "Song of the Blacksmith," uses themes from a traditional work song, and employs an anvil in the percussion section. The final movement, "Fantasia on the 'Dargason,'" uses the *Dargason* country dance, as well as the well-known *Greensleeves* melody.

-Hannah Carlson

Irish Tune from County Derry and Shepherd's Hey (1918).....Percy Grainger (1882-1961)

Irish Tune from County Derry and *Shepherd's Hey* are based on a collection of Irish folk songs compiled by Miss Jane Ross of County Derry, Ireland. Grainger's original setting of *Irish Tune* was for an a cappella choir of mixed voices, but his knowledge of instrumental voicings lent itself well to this version for wind ensemble, which he completed in 1918. The main theme from *Irish Tune* is popularly known as *Londonderry Air* or, *Danny Boy*.

Shepherd's Hey, which is commonly performed immediately following *Irish Tune*, is a setting of an English Morris Dance for military band. The composer says, "Morris Dances are still danced by teams of 'Morris Men' decked out with bells and quaint ornaments to the music of the fiddle...The word 'Hey' denotes a particular step in Morris Dancing." Though Grainger says his version of *Shepherd's Hey* is "not suitable to dance a Morris Dance to," the piece is rhythmically driven, and features an interweaving of several different melodic lines.

-Hannah Carlson

Four Scottish Dances (1957).....Malcolm Arnold (1921-2006)

Arr. John P. Paynter

The first of these dances is a slow strathspey, which is a stylised reel dance. Like a traditional reel, the strathspey is in 4/4 time, but is much slower and contains dotted rhythms. The second dance, a lively reel, modulates by half step through each repetition until the bassoon picks up the theme at half tempo in the key of G major. The third dance is in the style of a Hebridean song. In the Outer Hebrides, a group of islands off the west coast of Scotland, music has long played an important role in everyday life. Arnold's setting of this tune attempts to depict the sea and mountain scenery on a calm summer day in the Hebrides. The last dance is a highland fling, which is a vigorous Scottish reel. The term "fling" refers to the kicking gesture that characterizes the movements of this dance.

-Hannah Carlson

Kirkpatrick's Muse (2015).....Jay Bocook
(b. 1953)

Kirkpatrick's Muse, an original work by Jay Bocook, was commissioned by the McDaniel College Summer Music Camp in Westminster, Maryland, in celebration of 30 years of excellence, and is dedicated to camp founder and director, Dr. Linda Kirkpatrick.

In Irish dance music, the rhythmic tendencies of a reel are similar to the swing style of American jazz. However, rather than referring to these rhythms as “swing,” Celtic musicians typically say the music is performed “with a bounce.” Traditionally, the treble reel is danced in hard shoes so that the musicians can hear the bounce in each step. In *Kirkpatrick's Muse*, a Bodhrán creates and maintains the rhythmic drive throughout. The Bodhrán, an Irish frame drum played with either a bare hand or a “tipper,” is traditionally played while seated, and is held vertically, with the left hand placed on the back of the goatskin head and used to manipulate pitch.

-Hannah Carlson

The Beatles: Love (2008).....John Lennon and Paul McCartney
(1940-1980, b. 1942)

Arr. Jay Bocook

In 2006, “The Beatles: Love” by Cirque du Soleil opened to rave reviews at the Mirage hotel in Las Vegas. The show, created by famed Beatles producer Sir George Martin in coordination with his son, Giles, as well as Beatles Ringo Starr and Paul McCartney, is the physical manifestation of the music created by the Beatles in the 1960's. When producing the music for the show, the Martins took a “mash-up” approach, combining rhythms from one song along with the melody from another, and smoothly transitioning from demo tracks to final cuts. Using only sounds from the original recordings, the Martins have revitalized these staples of rock'n'roll in a way that challenges both the performers and the audience to hear the music of the Beatles as never before.

-Hannah Carlson

Excerpts from “Far and Away” (2013).....John Williams
(b. 1932)

Arr. Paul Lavender

“After seeing John Ford’s classic film *The Quiet Man* as a youngster many years ago, I had always aspired to write a film score based on an Irish subject. When Ron Howard asked me to score his film *Far And Away*, I immediately realized that my opportunity had arrived.

Given the richness of Irish vernacular music, the challenge to create original melodies in the Irish style was a daunting one. Nevertheless, it was a challenge I particularly enjoyed and had great fun with.

My fondest hope is that orchestras, bands, and audiences might derive even a fraction of the pleasure from this music that I had in writing it.”

-John Williams

British Eighth (1943).....Zo Elliott
(1891-1964)

Zo Elliott was a student of Nadia Boulanger at the American Conservatory in Fontainebleau, France, and later studied composition with Leonard Bernstein in New England. Though he was an American, Elliott is most remembered for two pieces with strong British ties. Lloyd George, former Prime Minister of England, referred to Elliott’s piece *There’s a Long, Long Trail*, as “the song that helped us win World War I.” His march, *British Eighth* was “Dedicated to the members of the immortal British Eighth Army, and accepted for them by General Sir Bernard L. Montgomery after their victories in North Africa in 1942.”

-Hannah Carlson

Poinsett Wind Symphony Personnel

Flute

Kristin Gill *band director*
Katherine Laches *band director*
Martha Kitterman *local musician*
Janet Kuntz *choral director*
Samantha Mumford *band director*
Megan Pruitt *band director*

Oboe

Leo De La Cruz *college student*
Linda DuPont *local musician*
Clare Miller *college student*

Bassoon

Ren Patel *band director*
Bryson Wightman *local musician*

Clarinet

Bob Chesebro *retired college professor*
Lizzy Douglass *band director*
Kirk Godbey *band director*
Gina League *local musician*
Michael McClimon *college professor*
Julie Poston *band director*
Ken Surratt *sales manager*
Roddy Terrell *military musician*
Kory Vrieze *music sales*
Maggie Walters *band director*

Saxophone

Sue Alexander *retired band director*
Ashley Gable *band director*
Aaron Gantt *band director*
Kevin Pham *band director*

Trumpet

Thomas Cotter *band director*
Craig Davis *band director*
Matt Gill *band director*
Aaron Herman *band director*
Christina Herman *band director*
Jim Kilgus *band director*
Paul Laches *band director*
Gary Malvern *college professor*
Mason Mumford *band director*
Spencer Nance *band director*
Jason Ray *band director*
Gary Rhoden *band director*

Horn

Susan Bocook *band director*
Drew Brooks *band director*
Bobby Cotter *band director*
Kaci Cotter *band director*
Susan Doll *kindermusik educator*
Andrew Pless *band director*
Darian Washington *college professor*

Trombone

Mark Britt *college professor*
Sara Glogowski *band director*
Tyler Goodwin *music retailer*
John McAllister *band director*
Chris Moss *band director*
John Pruitt *band director*
Myrella Samuels *band director*
Chris Smith *medical professional*

Euphonium

Matt Austin *college student*
Paul Dickinson *graduate student*
Alex Helms *band director*
Mike Doll *band director*
Jeff Kuntz *band director*

Tuba

Paul Haarala *college student*
Jeff Key *band director*
Chad Pence *band director*
Michael Taylor *college professor*

Percussion

John Beckford *college professor*
Stephen Bevels *local musician*
Hannah Carlson *graduate student*
Marcella Frese *music administrator*
Justin Lamb *college student*
Kevin Maloney *band director*

Piano

Emma Gierszal *college student*

