

UNIVERSITY OF
LOUISVILLE[®]
SCHOOL OF MUSIC

Wind Ensemble

Frederick Speck, Director



WASBE PRAGUE 2022

**World Association for Symphonic Bands and Ensembles
19th International Conference**

Palác Žofín
Praha, Česká republika
Sobota 23. července 2022
17:00

Žofín Palace
Prague, Czech Republic
Saturday, July 23, 2022
5:00 pm



World Association for Symphonic Bands and Ensembles 19th International Conference

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University of Louisville Wind Ensemble Frederick Speck, Director

Spires (2021)

Frederick Speck (b. 1955)

Amy I. Ackin, *conductor*

Sinfonia (1957)

Ned Rorem (b. 1923)

1. Lento appassionato
2. Scherzando
3. Slow
4. Like a motor

Frederick Speck, *conductor*

Cheetah (2007)

Karel Husa (1921-2016)

Concertino for Piano and Wind Ensemble, Op. 10 (1949/1984)

Karel Husa

- I. Allegro moderato
- II. Quasi fantasia; Moderato molto
- III. Allegro moderato

Anna Petrova, *soloist*

Send-Off Concert

Monday, July 18, 2022

7:30pm

Comstock Concert Hall
University of Louisville

PROGRAM NOTES

Spires

The magnitude of a spire can be compelling, easily capturing one's attention and imagination. They seem to possess a presence and energy that surpasses the architecture itself. Spires such as those of the Cologne Cathedral ascending high above the Rhine, St. Patrick's in New York, standing lower but appearing to stretch beyond the skyscrapers surrounding them, or in one's memory, the ghost of the spire of Notre Dame in Paris, all evoke a certain dynamic intensity. Some seem to strain with energy, launching upward, other seem to float in near weightlessness extending into the space beyond. These are a few of the metaphors that triggered the moods and motion in this music.



More specific to this concert at the World Association for Symphonic Bands and Ensembles Conference in Prague, there are human spires, too. Some have been among us this week, others such as Karel Husa have left this earth, though their music continues to challenge us, fill us, and move us. In every generation we are fortunate for relationships with those who share their talent, energy, force and good will to lift us up.

Sinfonia

Ned Rorem's *Sinfonia* holds a special place in our wind repertoire as the first of more than 400 works commissioned by Robert Austin Boudreau for the American Wind Symphony Orchestra. It is set in four movements of contrasting character and alternating tempi (slow-fast-slow-fast). Warm, whimsical, energetic and graceful, the work, though instrumental, reveals Rorem's vocal gift and perhaps a bit of the Parisian influence where he lived from 1949 to 1958.

"Lento appassionato", brings a sense of musical awakening like the optimistic stretching of a new day at dawn. A bold horn passage calls to colleagues who join one, then another as if participating on a song they've always known. Later, as resolution begins, the muted voice of a horn returns cueing the ensemble to melt away harmonically to a poetic release.

"Scherzando" is the flickering, playful, nimble cousin of its brawnier playmate known as "Like a motor."

In the next movement, modestly titled "Slow," the solo oboe brings forward a poetic melody that is nested in the subtle but rich harmonic and contrapuntal orchestration of its partners. Upon the

textures throughout the ensemble. At the same time, the fanfares first heard in the trombones near the beginning, return to be reshaped, extended and amplified through the entire brass section, culminating with the arrival at the climactic *fortissimo* of the work. Echoing out of this visceral release, Husa orchestrates a beautiful *dénouement*, dissolving the musical energy with subtle reminiscence, and suggesting a sort of sublime quality perhaps representing the composer's reflection about the "exhaustion after an unsuccessful chase."

Concertino for Piano and Wind Ensemble

Neoclassical clarity, the infusion of Czech folk idioms, wisps of Parisian influence, and romantic bravura all speak together in Karel Husa's *Concertino for Piano and Wind Ensemble*. The performance history of his original Op. 10 version for piano and orchestra is limited, with mention of the Helene Boschi premiere in collaboration with the Radio Brussels Orchestra on June 6, 1952 being a notable citation. When Husa began composing the work in 1949 he was still in his late twenties, with a degree from the Prague Conservatory and experiences in Paris as a student of Arthur Honegger and Nadia Boulanger. After the premiere of the *Concertino*, time passed with Husa considering revisions. Roughly thirty years later he received a commission by the Division of Cultural Affairs in the Florida Department of State and the University of Central Florida. Pianist and artist-in-residence Gary

Wolf requested a work for solo piano and wind ensemble. This created the opportunity for the composer to take a fresh look at the *Concertino* having already conceived masterful wind ensemble scoring in *Music for Prague 1968*, *Apotheosis of This Earth*, and *Al Fresco*. The result was a work of clarity, boldness, and sensitivity. The 1984 recasting of the work also references attributes of his later works, with the saxophones scored in a broad lyrical melody in the final movement sympathetic with their "vox humana" treatment in the second movement of *Music for Prague 1968* and later in *Cheetah*, and the ensemble's tutti rhythmic insistence that characterizes the conclusion of the work.



Karel Husa was the 1993 winner of the University of Louisville Grawemeyer Award in Music Composition for his *Concerto for Violoncello and Orchestra*. In 2012 he was recognized again by the university as the recipient of the honorary degree Doctor of Fine Arts.



FREDERICK SPECK

Frederick Speck directs both the Wind Ensemble and the New Music Ensemble, teaches conducting, and serves as Chair for the Department of Performance Studies at the University of Louisville. In addition, he is the artistic director and conductor of Chamber Winds Louisville and the Louisville Concert Band. Ensembles led by Speck have earned praise for being “crisply responsive” with “terrific verve...displaying mastery” (The Courier Journal, Louisville). Following a Wind Ensemble concert of Grawemeyer Award Winners in Carnegie Hall, Sequenza21 reported, “Speck’s energy and momentum concluded the concert with a gripping interpretation of John Corigliano’s Tarantella from Symphony No. 1... Thunderous applause from a captivated audience greeted Mr. Speck and Mr. Corigliano, proof of both performer’s and composer’s ability to move listeners.” He is an elected member of the American Bandmasters Association and Past President of the College Band Directors National Association Southern Division. Speck earned a B.M. and M.M. from Bowling Green State University and a D.M.A. from the University of Maryland.



AMY I. ACKLIN

Amy Acklin serves as Professor of Music and Associate Director of Bands at the University of Louisville. Under her direction, the UofL Symphonic Band performed at the 2016 CBDNA Southern Division Conference and the 2015 Kentucky Music Educators Association Professional Conference. Dr. Acklin is an active conductor, clinician, and adjudicator throughout the country. She serves as the National Band Association Kentucky State Chair and is a member of the John Philip Sousa Foundation Legion of Honor Committee. Dr. Acklin is the recipient of the 2021 UofL Distinguished Teacher Award, the 2019 KMEA College/University Teacher of the Year Award, the NBA Citation of Excellence and an inductee of the Phi Beta Mu International Bandmasters Fraternity and Pi Kappa Lambda National Music Honor Society. Dr. Acklin has publications in The Journal of Band Research, Update: Applications of Research in Music Education, Florida Music Director, and GIA’s “Teaching Music Through Performance in Band” series. She holds B.M. and M.M. degrees from the University of Louisville and a Ph.D. in Music Education/Instrumental Conducting from Florida State University.



ANNA PETROVA

Bulgarian pianist, Anna Petrova, has been praised for her “artistic, clear and enlightened” performances by the BBC Magazine and “deeply moving... astonishing musicianship” by The Classical Post. Further, of her New York orchestral debut with conductor Philippe Entremont, Petrova was noted for her “ultra-smooth playing style” - New York Fine Arts Examiner. In January 2020, Petrova made her debut with the Louisville Orchestra, performing the Grieg Piano Concerto with conductor Roderick Cox. Other recent engagements include solo recitals in the United States and Spain, masterclasses in the United States and Canada, and the release of her first solo album *A Slavic Heart*, featuring works by Scriabin, Rachmaninoff, Prokofiev and Vladigerov. Additionally, Petrova is working on a two-CD set of the complete piano sonatas of Russian composer Samuil Feinberg which will be released by Naxos. She is the Artistic Director and Founder of the Alberto Jonás International School of Music in Valencia, Spain and one of the founding members of the Festival Malaga Clasica. During the past two seasons the Carr-Petrova duo toured internationally with the interdisciplinary project Novel Voices Refugee Aid Project, presenting interactive performances and workshops to refugee communities.

Petrova holds a Doctor of Musical Arts degree from Manhattan School of Music, where her main teachers have been Horacio Gutiérrez and André-Michel Schub. She is an Assistant Professor of Piano at the University of Louisville.

University of Louisville Wind Ensemble

The University of Louisville Wind Ensemble is widely known for its persuasive performances of significant works representing a variety of styles in the wind band repertoire. Directed by Dr. Frederick Speck, the musicians aspire to the highest level of musical and artistic standards. The ensemble maintains an active schedule of performances and is comprised of the finest woodwind, brass, and percussion students at the university.

In addition to campus performances, the ensemble has been invited to perform at numerous professional association conferences. Such performances include Kentucky Music Educators Association In-Service Conferences, College Band Directors National Association-Southern Division Conferences, the Music Educators National Conference National Convention, the College Band Directors National Conference in New York City, World Association for Symphonic Bands and Ensembles Conferences in Killarney, Ireland and San Jose, California, the Jungfrau Music Festival in Interlaken, Switzerland, the College Music Society National Conference, and the American Bandmasters Association Convention.



UNIVERSITY OF LOUISVILLE
WIND ENSEMBLE
 Frederick Speck, *Director*

Flutes and Piccolos

Alison Addie	Louisville, KY
Cameron Bilek*	Orland Park, IL
Hannah Iglehart	Versailles, KY
Jasper Kasey	Louisville, KY

Oboes and English Horns

Jackson Brummett*	Winchester, IN
Stephanie Hile	Louisville, KY
Joel Huether	Louisville, KY

Bassoons

Zachary Lynn	Jonesboro, AR
Nathan Shepherd*	Lanesville, IN

Contrabassoon

Jackie Royce •	Louisville, KY
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Clarinets

Austin Glover*	Bellevue, KY
Kelly Hayden	Owensboro, KY
Ashtyn Jones	LaGrange, KY
Patrick Nguyen	Vine Grove, KY
Elise Piecuch	Memphis, TN
Brad Rogers†•	LaGrange, KY
Aaron Seay	Georgetown, IN
Rachel Wilson	Santa Claus, IN

Bass Clarinet

Chandler Craine	Frankfort, KY
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Alto Saxophones

Nick Martin	Campbellsville, KY
Tanner Swift*	Louisville, KY

Tenor Saxophone

Madeleine McGinnis	Union, KY
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Baritone Saxophone

Brayden Colbert	Louisville, KY
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Horns

Michael Coleman	Mount Washington, KY
Korey Garcia	Jeffersonville, IN
Bailey Hatzell	Louisville, KY
Matthew Howard*	Johnson City, TN
Allie Swarens	Ramsey, IN

Trumpets

Gabe Edwards*	Jeffersonville, IN
Angel Gross	Louisville, KY
Joshua James	Louisville, KY
Joseph Leites	St. Augustine, FL
Evan Schneider	Louisville, KY
Andrew Steinsultz	Evansville, IN

Trombones

Logan Myers*	Flaherty, KY
Hunter Snow	Lawrenceburg, KY
Sean Small	Evansville, IN

Bass Trombone

Carter Cantrell	Lawrenceburg, KY
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Euphoniums

David Centers•	Louisville, KY
Noah Griffith*	Whitesburg, KY

Tubas

Ben Bunting*	LaGrange, KY
Nathan Jackson	Louisville, KY

Piano

Amy Acklin†•	Louisville, KY
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Percussion

Garrett Bunn	Louisville, KY
Thaddaeus Harris	Louisville, KY
Stephanie Lawson	Cincinnati, OH
Paul Pfeifer*	Owensboro, KY
Samuel Riddick	Louisville, KY

Names are listed in alphabetical order.

* denotes principal
 • denotes alumna/alumnus
 † denotes faculty

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The faculty, staff and students of the University of Louisville Wind Ensemble express gratitude and appreciation to those who as donors helped to make this 2022 World Association for Symphonic Bands and Ensembles performance possible.

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Geneva Brummett

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Erin M. Schneider

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Paul York

Additional Thanks:

University of Louisville Grawemeyer Award in Music Composition

Marc Satterwhite, Faculty Director

School of Music Alumni Council

Anonymous Donors

We gratefully acknowledge the following commissioning partners for Spires.

Steven Davis, Director of Bands at University of Missouri-Kansas City Conservatory

Bradley Ethington, Director of Bands at Syracuse University

Matthew McCutchen, Director of Bands at the University of South Florida

Damon Talley, Director of Bands at Louisiana State University

David Waybright, Director of Bands at the University of Florida

All proceeds from the commission were directed to the support of student musician travel to the conference.

University of Louisville School of Music

Teresa Reed, Dean
Krista Wallace-Boaz, Associate Dean

University Bands

Frederick Speck, Director of Bands/Chair, Department of Performance Studies
Amy I. Acklin, Associate Director of Bands/Director, Marching Band and Athletic Bands
Jason Cumberledge, Assistant Director of Bands/Assistant Director, Marching Band and Athletic Bands
Acton E. Ostling, Jr., Director of Bands Emeritus
Rachel McCrorey, Administrative Assistant

Woodwind, Brass & Percussion Faculty

Kathleen Karr, flute	Emily Britton, horn
Jennifer Potochnic, oboe	Reese Land, trumpet
Matthew Nelson, clarinet	Anslyn Banks, jazz trumpet
Matthew Karr, bassoon	Brett Shuster, trombone
Adam McCord, saxophone	Clinton McCanless, euphonium & tuba
Michael Tracy, jazz saxophone	Greg Byrne, percussion

The University of Louisville School of Music

The University of Louisville is Kentucky's premier, nationally recognized metropolitan research university. The School of Music, a fully accredited member of NASM since 1932, is a member of the Kentucky state system of higher education. The university has experienced steady growth with a current enrollment of 22,000 students, 400 of whom are enrolled in the School of Music in both undergraduate and graduate degree programs (BA, BM, BME, MA, MM, MME). The School is home to the Grawemeyer Award for Music Composition, one of the most prestigious international prizes for composers. The Dwight Anderson Music Library, housing the largest academic music collection in the state of Kentucky, includes an archive of materials related to the Grawemeyer Award and the Ricasoli Collection of 400 European manuscripts and editions from the 18th and early 19th centuries. The School of Music enjoys a prominent role in Louisville rich artistic community, which includes the Louisville Orchestra, Kentucky Opera Association, the Louisville Chamber Music Society, the Louisville Ballet, the Speed Art Museum, the Muhammad Ali Center, and Actors Theatre of Louisville. For more information about the School, see www.louisville.edu/music.

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