

CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING AND CINEMATIC ARTS

Boyer College of Music and Dance

Temple University

New Music Ensemble

Jan Krzywicki, director

Wednesday, October 6, 2021 · 7:30 PM

Presser Hall, Klein Recital Hall

2001 N. 13th Street

Philadelphia, PA 19122



Program

Intrada

Ellen Taaffe Zwilich (b. 1939)

Scenes from the South--
memories of childhood

Alexander Glass (b. 2000)

Pinkster Kings

Trevor Weston (b. 1967)

- I. Pinkster Procession I: Ommegang
- II. Introduction and the King's Letter
- III. Greed
- IV. Half Free and Recessional

Trevor Weston, narrator

A City Called Heaven
III. Allegro

Olly Wilson (1937-2018)

Temple University New Music Ensemble

Jan Krzywicki, conductor

Anabel Torres, flute/piccolo

Anthony Bithell, clarinet/bass clarinet

Abigail Dickson, violin

Anthony James Stacy, viola

Harris Banks, violoncello

Maria Dell'Orefice, piano

Rachel Lee, piano

Emilyrose Ristine, percussion

Milo Paperman, percussion

with guest

Trevor Weston, narrator

Program Notes

Intrada

Ellen Taaffe Zwilich

Intrada was commissioned by the da Capo Chamber Players and composed in 1983 during a residency at the Villa Serbelloni in Bellagio, Italy.

A note from the composer:

When we first spoke about a commission, the Da Capo Chamber Players asked if I would be interested in writing a short work that could be used as a program opener. I thought that would be fun and *Intrada* is the result. I thought of the work not only as a small overture, but also as an introduction to the colorful personalities that comprise the ensemble (flute/piccolo, clarinet, violin, cello, and piano).

Ellen Taaffe Zwilich has been a prolific composer in virtually all media. Her works have been performed by most of the leading American orchestras and by major ensembles abroad. Among them are five symphonies and a string of concertos commissioned and performed over the past two decades by the nation's top orchestras. Zwilich has a long string of awards to her credit, including the 1983 Pulitzer Prize in Music, the first woman to receive the award. Zwilich holds a doctorate from The Juilliard School and is currently the Krafft Distinguished Professor at Florida State University.

Scenes from the South--memories of childhood

Alex Glass

A note from the composer:

Scenes from the South is a reflection on my memories of my grandparents' house in rural Georgia. As a child, my family and I would travel down to Georgia twice a year to visit my dad's parents and his extended family. The serene, pastoral atmosphere around their home always allowed my imagination to run wild while I could simultaneously escape from the suburban South Jersey setting where I spent most of my time. However, as my dad's family grows old and my own life becomes busier, I realize I may not have many trips left to

that special place. This piece recalls childhood nostalgia with the distance of maturity and the knowledge that all things, no matter how special, must eventually fade away.

Alex Glass is a composer and pianist from Cherry Hill, NJ in the last year of his undergraduate degree in music composition, currently studying with Prof. William Dougherty. Alex started composing at the age of seven and has since written for chamber orchestra, voice, jazz big band, solo piano, and numerous chamber groups. In his compositions, he draws heavily from classical piano repertoire, jazz harmonic and melodic language, odd rhythms and meters, and innovative textures and timbres. As a performer, Alex can be seen playing his own piano compositions and those of fellow students, as well as playing in various jazz ensembles in the Philadelphia area. He can also be heard playing keyboard in the *Sonorants*, a Bollywood/jazz fusion group based in South Jersey.

Pinkster Kings

Trevor Weston

A note from the composer:

Few are aware of the Afro-Dutch traditions in New York and New Jersey in the 17th-19th centuries. During the colonial period, African slaves represented the predominant workforce in New York. The complexities of the Dutch involvement in the Atlantic Slave trade, aggressions against the Portuguese and Spanish are connected to the formation of the New Netherland settlement. Pinkster Day emerged from a Dutch celebration of Pentecost into a week-long Black celebration (“Pinkster” is an anglicized version of the Dutch word for Pentecost). During this period, Africans were free to travel to join the celebration in various areas of the New Netherland Settlement, Manhattan, Brooklyn, Long Island, and Northern New Jersey. A king presided over the week and had complete authority over Dutch and Africans who attended. He even demanded money from all of the attendees. Most scholars believe that the Africans, through various mutual aid societies, lobbied for the continuation of the celebration long after the English took control of the area in the 1660s. The work of the Africans was irreplaceable and the Africans and Dutch knew this.

Pinkster Kings uses primary source material to simulate an imagined Pinkster celebration. The traditional ceremony included a procession of the king, judgments by the king and dancing. *Pinkster Kings*

interweaves historical texts with music to illuminate the important contributions of Africans to the formation of New York during the Dutch period. The work was commissioned by Ensemble Pi for their *Reparations Now* concert in October 2020. The work is dedicated to Weston's mentor, composer Olly Wilson (d. 2018).

Trevor Weston's music has been called a “gently syncopated marriage of intellect and feeling.” (Detroit Free Press) Weston's honors include the George Ladd Prix de Paris from the University of California, Berkeley, a Goddard Lieberston Fellowship from the American Academy of Arts and Letters, and residencies at the Virginia Center for the Creative Arts and the MacDowell Colony. Weston co-authored with Olly Wilson, “Duke Ellington as a Cultural Icon” in the **Cambridge Companion to Duke Ellington**, published by Cambridge University Press.

Carnegie Hall co-commissioned Weston's *Flying Fish*, with the American Composers Orchestra, for its 125 Commissions Project. The Bang on a Can All-Stars premiered Weston's *Dig It*, for the Ecstatic Music Festival in NYC in 2019. The Grammy-nominated Choir of Trinity Church Wall Street, under the direction of Julian Wachner, recorded a CD of Trevor Weston's choral works. Weston's work *Juba for Strings* won the 2019 Sonori/New Orleans Chamber Orchestra Composition Competition. Dr. Weston is currently Professor of Music and Chair of the Music Department at Drew University in Madison, NJ.

A City Called Heaven

Olly Wilson

A note from the composer:

The title of the composition is taken from a traditional Black American spiritual whose principal theme serves as the musical inspiration for the central slow movement of the piece. The chorus of this spiritual has the following text:

*Sometimes I am tossed and driven -- Lord
Sometimes don't know where to roam --
I've heard of a city called heaven
I'm trying to make it my home.*

The composition contains three movements in a fast-slow-fast

arrangement, each of which is inspired by different genres of African-American music transformed by my own contemporary musical language.

The first movement is based on a reinterpretation of a blues "riff," ... while the second movement seeks to evoke the character and sensibilities associated with the original spiritual in a new musical context.

The last movement--the only movement performed this evening-- opens with an aggressive percussion solo dominated by virtuoso passages for the piano in the lower register and percussion. The basic musical gestures associated with these two prominent instruments are inspired by rhythmic dynamism of the African-American music genre "Boogie-Woogie." The entire ensemble, beginning with pizzicato strings, shares in the development of this basic musical material that leads to several episodes whose distinct musical ideas grow out of previous sections. Ultimately, a series of duets between the percussion and piano culminate in a riff-like ensemble statement that brings closure to the movement.

A City Called Heaven was commissioned by the Boston Musica Viva ensemble and given its world premiere in April 1989.

Olly Wilson (d. 2018) was an American composer, pianist, double bassist and musicologist, one of the preeminent composers of African American descent in the 20th and 21st centuries. He was also a proficient jazz and orchestral musician who worked in electronic media, and authored studies of African music. His works have been widely performed in the United States and abroad and include commissions from the Chicago, Boston, and New York Symphony Orchestras, as well as a variety of recordings. Wilson has been honored with numerous awards and prestigious residencies. He taught at Oberlin Conservatory (where he established the first-ever conservatory program in electronic music) and the University of California, Berkeley from 1970 to 2002, where Trevor Weston was a student of his.

Boyer College of Music and Dance

The Boyer College of Music and Dance is part of the Center for the Performing and Cinematic Arts at Temple University. Students at the Boyer College have the unique opportunity to interact with leading composers, conductors, educators, performers and choreographers while experiencing a challenging and diverse academic curriculum. The Boyer faculty is recognized globally as leaders in their respective fields. Boyer alumni are ambassadors of artistic leadership and perform with major orchestras, opera and dance companies, teach at schools and colleges and work as professional music therapists, choreographers and composers.

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The Center for the Performing and Cinematic Arts

The Center for the Performing and Cinematic Arts consists of the Boyer College of Music and Dance, School of Theater, Film and Media Arts, the George and Joy Abbott Center for Musical Theater and the Temple Performing Arts Center. Boyer is home to the three-time Grammy nominated Temple University Symphony Orchestra, award-winning Jazz Program and research and scholarly advancements in music therapy, music theory, history, education, conducting, keyboard, voice and dance. The College also manages its own record label, BCM&D Records, which has released more than thirty recordings. The School of Theater, Film and Media Arts engages gifted students with nationally and internationally recognized faculty scholars and professionals. A hallmark of the School of Theater, Film and Media Arts is the Los Angeles Study Away program, housed at historic Raleigh Studios. The George and Joy Abbott Center for Musical Theater engages visiting performers, guest artists, set designers, playwrights and other Broadway professionals. The Temple Performing Arts Center (TPAC), a historic landmark on campus, is home to a state-of-the-art 1,200 seat auditorium and 200 seat chapel. More than 300 concerts, lectures and performances take place at TPAC each year.

arts.temple.edu

Temple University

Since 1884 when founder Reverend Russell Conwell began teaching students, Temple University has evolved into a comprehensive urban research and academic institution. Temple has a world-class reputation and an international presence with campuses in Philadelphia, Ambler and Harrisburg in Pennsylvania, in Tokyo, Rome and educational centers in Seoul, Beijing, London, Paris and Mumbai. Temple's seventeen schools and colleges, nine campuses, hundreds of degree programs and 35,000 students combine to create one of the nation's most comprehensive and diverse learning environments.

Temple University 2021-2022 Season
Upcoming Events

Thursday, October 7 at 4:30-6:30pm

Rite of Swing Jazz Café: Tim Brey, piano

Tim Brey, piano

John Swana, EVI

Nathan Pence, bass

Justin Faulkner, drums

Temple Performing Arts Center Lobby

Friday, October 8 at 1:00-2:30pm

Music Studies Colloquium Series: Alex deVaron, "Music as
Contemplative Practice"

Presser 142, also via Zoom

Sunday, October 10 at 3:00pm

Temple University Concert Choir

Remembering 9/11

CONTE *September Sun*

CLEARFIELD *Farlorn Alemen*

MOORE *There Are Hundreds of Ways to Kneel and Kiss the
Ground*

BETINIS *Bar Xizam*

Paul Rardin, conductor

Temple Performing Arts Center

Wednesday, October 13 at 4:30pm

Jazz Master Class: Larry McKenna, saxophone

Howard Gittis Student Center

Wednesday, October 13 at 7:30pm

Jazz @ the Underground: Larry McKenna, saxophone

Howard Gittis Student Center

Temple University 2021-2022 Season Upcoming Events

Thursday, October 14 at 4:30-6:30pm

Rite of Swing Jazz Café: Preston Lee Group

Preston Lee, alto saxophone

Bell Thompson, trumpet

Ross Gerberich, tenor saxophone

Joshua Richman, piano

Matthew Green, bass

Donovan Pope, drums

Temple Performing Arts Center Lobby

Friday, October 15 at 1:00-2:30pm

Music Studies Colloquium Series: Bill Dougherty, “Listening In: Making Music, Making Communities”

Presser 142, also via Zoom

Friday, October 15 at 7:30pm

Saturday, October 16 at 7:30pm

Reflection:Response Commission with Metal

Tickets: \$20 general admission, \$15 students/senior citizens, \$10

Temple employees, \$5 Temple student with OWLcard.

Available at boyer.temple.edu, 215.204.1122, in-person at the

Temple Arts Box Office (Tomlinson Theater lobby, 1301 W.

Norris St., Mon-Fri 12-6pm), or at the venue 45 minutes before

each performance. Credit, debit and checks only. Cash not

accepted.

Conwell Dance Theater

Saturday, October 16 at 2:30pm

Music Prep: Student Recital Hour

Featuring individual lesson students and chamber ensembles.

Temple University Center City, Room 222

Temple University 2021-2022 Season Upcoming Events

Monday, October 18 at 7:30pm

Temple University Jazz Band

Terell Stafford, director

Joey DeFrancesco, organ

Christian McBride, bass

A celebration of the album “Without You, No Me: Honoring the Legacy of Jimmy Heath” released on BCM&D Records in September 2021 featuring guest artists Joey DeFrancesco and Christian McBride.

Temple Performing Arts Center

Wednesday, October 20 at 7:30pm

Senior Recital: Brian Morris Jr., jazz saxophone

Klein Recital Hall

Wednesday, October 20 at 7:30pm

conTemplum: SoundPrints I

Rock Hall Auditorium

Thursday, October 21 at 4:30-6:30pm

Rite of Swing Jazz Café: Eli Zukor Group

Eli Zukor, bass

Lora Sherrodd, vocals

Evan Kappelman, saxophone

Oliver Mayman, piano

Larry Shaw, drums

Temple Performing Arts Center Lobby

All events are free unless otherwise noted. Programs are subject to change without notice.

For further information or to confirm events, please call 215.204.7609

or visit www.temple.edu/boyer.