# Boyer College of Music and Dance

# conTemplum SoundPrints IV

Wednesday, April 6, 2022 • 5:30 PM Rock Hall Auditorium 1715 N. Broad Street Philadelphia, PA 19122



# **Program**

From Below (2022)

Lowell Hoyt

Harris Banks, violoncello Daniel Virgen, double bass Lowell Hoyt, piano

Chorale for Trombones (2021)

Mike Raymond

Andrew Sedlacsik, David Chodor, & Scott Alberti, trombone John Kim, bass trombone

Dreams of Holy Places: I, II, III (2021)

Morgan Kelly Moss

Morgan Kelly Moss, piano

Bonedog (2022)

Dan Virgen

Faith Crossan, soprano Brannon Rovins, cello Alex Glass, piano

In Dickie's Meadow (2021)

Alina Childers

Alina Childers, piano

Songs from Lewis Carroll: Part II (2021) Interlude (*The Walrus and The Carpenter*) V. You are Old, Father William Alex Glass

Interlude

VI. Turtle Soup

Interlude

VII. 'Tis the Voice of the Lobster

**Epilogue** 

Andrew Shaw, baritone Alex Glass, piano

# Program Notes

From Below Lowell Hoyt

The name of *From Below* refers to the instrumentation: both the cello and bass are low instruments that usually play subsidiary roles, so the main material for the piece comes "from below." This musical material includes typical effects, like lyrical melodies and plucked bass lines, but it also includes more unusual effects, such as bowing in atypical places, slapping strings against the fingerboard, and hitting the bodies of the instruments as drums. The piano also uses special effects, like plucking the strings with a guitar pick, muting strings with the palm, and using the low strings in the style of a marimba or xylophone, hitting them with mallets. This may seem excessive, but I feel that since the typical excitement of high notes and larger ranges in general is lost in this ensemble, these effects more than make up for this loss.

#### Chorale for Trombones

Mike Raymond

Chorale for Trombones is my first experiment in writing for a trombone quartet. I had been interested in composing a piece for this instrumentation for some time because I love the timbre.

#### **Dreams of Holy Places**

Morgan Moss

Dreams of Holy Places is a multi-movement work for solo piano. The first movement is based on a recurring location in my dreams. I am fortunate that I frequently have dreams, and I almost always remember them. In the dream, I was a child, and I would climb up onto a white stone bench and look out at a scene that was not always exactly the same... sometimes it was the ocean, sometimes it was a garden, sometimes it was rolling hills of wildflowers, but the scene always seemed to be sparkling in silver and gold. Most importantly, there was a presence next to me that was much older and wiser than I was (hence the title of this work) and the presence calmed me completely. It is not often that I hear anything specific in my dreams, but in this dream I always heard distant church bells. I felt I needed to do something with these dreams, and decided to write a piece about them. In the music, I wanted to capture the shimmering scene with the dissonances, the majesty of the presence next to me with the large

moving gestures, and the chordal motif to signify the bells in the distance. The second movement creates the character of another recurring dream where I floated underwater and butterflies carried me, flitting around my head. The music creates this playful scene and ends with a small splash as I exit the dream. The third and final movement asks a question; what would God look like? Would he be gentle? Would he be larger than we can imagine? Would he come down from the heavens with majesty and terror? The music ends on this question, as we will never truly know.

Bonedog Dan Virgen

Bonedog is based off a poem by Eva H. D.

#### LYRICS:

Coming home is terribly lonely

so that you think of the oppressive barometric pressure back from where you came from with fondness,

because everything's worse when you're home.

Vermin clinging to grass stalks

Peculiar shapes of clouds and silences.

They contribute to nothing but the general malaise.

You return home moon-landed and foreign.

Gravity drags your laces loose

and your shoulders etch deeper the stanza of worry on your forehead.

Anyway...

anyway....

You're back.

You come back with x-ray vision. Your eyes have become a hunger.

You come home to a house of bone.

Everything you see now, all of it: Bone.

#### In Dickie's Meadow

Alina Childers

In Dickie's Meadow is a solo piano waltz that encapsulates the imagery of meadows and pastures, encompassing the serene, spacious and tempestuous imaginative aspects.

Songs from Lewis Carroll is a dramatic song cycle based on poems from Lewis Carroll's Alice in Wonderland and Through the Looking-Glass. This cycle is set within the larger narrative of the poem "The Walrus and The Carpenter", realized as a spoken drama that provides the cycle's backdrop. The other poems form the cycle's seven songs, which are organized in a way that reinforces the narrative arc of the whole work. The first four songs were performed in Fall 2021 at conTemplum's SoundPrints II, and the remaining three will be performed at tonight's concert.

The three songs featured in this performance are the baroque-aria inspired "You are Old, Father William", the sordid twelve-tone "Turtle Soup", and the deconstructed Broadway-style "Tis the Voice of the Lobster". Musical interludes featuring text from "The Walrus and the Carpenter" come between the songs, and an epilogue completes the cycle, referencing the prologue from Part I.

#### About the Artists

A native of Cheltenham, PA, LOWELL HOYT (b. 2000) got his first taste of music in elementary school, where his teacher recommended he join the Keystone State Boychoir. An avid singer, he has sung under the direction of many prominent conductors, including Steven Malvar-Ruiz, Fisher. Fernando Paul Rardin, and Yannick Nezet-Seguin. Over eight years in KSB, his life was shifted in the direction of composition. His first attempts came in 2015, and, under the guidance of Sheridan Sevfried, he continued working on his craft until graduation from the choir in 2018. A senior Music Composition major, he has studied with Jan Krzywicki, Maurice Wright, Matthew Greenbaum, and Cynthia Folio.

**MIKE RAYMOND** is a guitarist and composer from Philadelphia. He is studying jazz performance at Temple currently with Greg Kettinger and also performs with the Temple University Jazz Band. He enjoys a wide variety of music.

MORGAN KELLY MOSS has been playing piano and studying music since she was three, and is currently a composition and piano performance double major at Temple University Boyer College of Music and Dance. Recently, Moss's The Brook for flute, clarinet, piano, and voice was selected in a call for scores by the Allentown Symphony Orchestra. She was also recently accorded Emerging Composer by Tribeca New Music Competition for her piano trio "Storks." Moss studies composition with the highly respected composers Dr. Maurice Wright and Prof. Jan Krzywicki, and additionally studies piano under world-renowned pianist Sara Davis Buechner. Moss is also very active in scoring music for film, and has composed for 5 award-winning short films in her career so far at Temple University, the most recent nomination being for best music in a short film. Moss is currently working on scoring her first feature length film. She is also very proud to be a teacher of piano, composition, theory, and voice at the Music Studio of Patricia Keith in Boyertown, PA. Moss is very passionate about her music and would like to share this joy with as many people as she can, whether it is through listening, teaching, or collaborating. Moss plans to graduate from Temple University in 2022 and continue her studies as a composer and pianist at the graduate level.

**DAN VIRGEN** is an instrumentalist and composer from Weehawken, New Jersey. He is a first year undergraduate composition major who currently studies with Dr. Wright. He has written works for brass quartet, string trio, and is currently working on writing a musical!

**ALINA CHILDERS** is a freshman music composition major at the Boyer College of Music and Dance. She plays and composes for various instruments, such as piano and guitar, as well as a variety of percussion and wind instruments.

ALEX GLASS (b. 2000) is a composer and pianist from Cherry Hill, NJ. He 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, Alex draws heavy inspiration from classical piano repertoire, jazz harmonic and melodic language, odd rhythms and meters, and innovative textures and timbres. Alex will receive a Bachelor's Degree in Music Composition in 2022 from the Boyer College of Music and Dance at Temple University, where he currently studies with Dr. Cynthia Folio.

# Boyer College of Music and Dance

The Boyer College of Music and Dance offers over 500 events open to the public each year. Students have the unique opportunity to interact with leading performers, composers, conductors, educators, choreographers and guest artists while experiencing a challenging and diverse academic curriculum. The Boyer faculty are 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. Boyer's recording label, BCM&D records, has produced more than thirty recordings, three of which have received Grammy nominations.

boyer.temple.edu

#### 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. 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 500 concerts, classes, lectures and performances take place at TPAC each year.

arts.temple.edu

# Temple University

Temple University's history begins in 1884, when a young working man asked Russell Conwell if he could tutor him at night. It wasn't long before he was teaching several dozen students—working people who could only attend class at night but had a strong desire to make something of themselves. Conwell recruited volunteer faculty to participate in the burgeoning night school, and in 1888 he received a charter of incorporation for "The Temple College." His founding vision for the school was to provide superior educational opportunities for academically talented and highly motivated students, regardless of their backgrounds or means. The fledgling college continued to grow, adding programs and students throughout the following decades. Today, Temple's more than 35,000 students continue to follow the university's official motto—Perseverantia Vincit, or "Perseverance Conquers"—with their supreme dedication to excellence in academics, research, athletics, the arts and more.

# Temple University 2021-2022 Season Upcoming Events

#### Wednesday, April 6 at 7:30pm

First Doctoral Recital: Wendy Bickford, clarinet

Rock Hall Auditorium

# Thursday, April 7 at 12:00pm

Jazz Ensemble Recital: John Swana Ensemble Art of Bread Café

# Thursday, April 1 at 1:00pm

Chamber Music Recital Marissa Harley, English horn and Sarah Walsh, oboe Rock Hall Auditorium

# Thursday, April 7 at 2:30pm

Chamber Music Recital Saxophone Quartet Rock Hall Auditorium

# Thursday, April 7 at 4:30pm

Rite of Swing Jazz Café: Unison Tony Miceli, vibraphone; John Swana, EVI; Lee Smith, bass; Byron Landham, drums Temple Performing Arts Center Lobby

# Thursday, April 7 at 5:30pm

Student Recital: Adam Rudisill & John Panza, percussion Klein Recital Hall

# Thursday, April 7 at 5:30pm

First Doctoral Recital: Madalina-Claudia Danila, piano Rock Hall Auditorium

# Thursday, April 7 at 7:30pm

Master's Recital: Mingfu Han, piano Rock Hall Auditorium

# Thursday, April 7 at 7:30pm

Big Band Dance Temple Performing Arts Center

# Temple University 2021-2022 Season Upcoming Events

# Friday, April 8 at 1:00pm

Chamber Music Recital String Trio Horn Quartet Oboe Trio Rock Hall Auditorium

#### Friday, April 8 at 2:30pm

Chamber Music Recital Josh Schairer, bassoon and Katie Ventura, harp Katie Ventura, harp and Catherine Huhn, flute Trish Stull, flute; Alex Phipps, clarinet; Daniel Farah, piano Rock Hall Auditorium

# Friday, April 8 at 4:00pm

Student Recital: Kathleen Carpenter, clarinet Rock Hall Auditorium

# Friday, April 8 at 5:30pm

Senior Recital: Fiona Carlee Male, jazz voice Klein Recital Hall

#### Friday, April 8 at 5:30pm

Master's Recital: Hannah Han, piano Rock Hall Auditorium

#### Friday, April 8 at 7:30pm

Senior Recital: Ben Cohen, jazz drums Klein Recital Hall

# Friday, April 8 at 7:30pm

Senior Recital: Morgan Moss, piano Rock Hall Auditorium

# Temple University 2021-2022 Season Upcoming Events

Friday, April 8 at 7:30pm (A)
Saturday, April 9 at 2:30pm (A) & 7:30pm (B)
Sunday, April 10 at 2:30pm (B)

**BFA** Dance Concert

Works by graduating seniors.

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

Friday, April 8 at 7:00pm Sunday, April 10 at 3:00pm Tuesday, April 12 at 7:00pm

Temple University Opera Theater MOZART *Le Nozze di Figaro* Michael Sakir, music director Brandon McShaffrey, stage director Jamie Johnson, producer Tomlinson Theater

#### Saturday, April 9 at 2:30pm

Music Prep: Student Recital Hour Featuring individual lesson students and chamber ensembles. Temple University Center City, Room 222

# Saturday, April 9 at 2:30pm

Master's Recital: Sarah Lee, piano Rock Hall Auditorium

# Saturday, April 9 at 2:30pm

Senior Recital: Omeed Elving Nyman, jazz bass trombone Klein Recital Hall