

*World on Fire*

UNI CONCERT CHORALE

JOHN WILES, CONDUCTOR

AND

UNI WIND ENSEMBLE

DANNY GALYEN, CONDUCTOR

# PROGRAM

## CONCERT CHORALE

Excerpts from *O ignis Spiritus paracliti*, Hildegard of Bingen (1098-1179, Germany)

*O fire of the Spirit and Defender, the life of every life created:  
Holy are you – giving life to every form.*

*Fire* .....Katerina Gimon  
(b. 1993, Canada)

*Holy are you – anointing the critically broken. Holy are you – cleansing the festering wounds.*  
"Fire of the Ancient Heart" from *Considering Matthew Shepard*. ....Craig Hella Johnson  
(b. 1962, USA)

John Hines, bass, Tyler Snodgrass, piano,  
UNI Wind Ensemble Percussion

*From you the clouds flow forth, the wind takes flight, the stones their moisture hold,  
the water rivers spring, and earth viridity exudes.*

*Ancient Prairie* .....Ēriks Ešenvalds  
(b. 1977, Latvia)

Nash Ryder, violin

*You are the teacher of the truly learned, whose joy you grant through Wisdom's inspiration.*  
*Elijah Rock* .....Moses Hogan  
(1957-2003, USA)

- INTERMISSION -

## WIND ENSEMBLE

*Dancing Fire* (2016) ..... Kevin Day  
(b. 1996, USA)

*Troublesome Fire* (2022) .....James David  
(b. 1978, USA)

*Embers* (2015) .....Tom Davoren  
(b. 1986, Wales)

Sophia Patchin, graduate conductor

*Burning the Wickerman* (2020) .....Julie Giroux  
(b. 1961, USA)

Mary O'Connell, graduate conductor

## WIND ENSEMBLE AND CONCERT CHORALE

*Set the World on Fire* (2020)\* ..... David Gillingham  
(b. 1947, USA)

\*World Premiere Performance

# CONCERT CHORALE

## **SOPRANO**

Aleigha Ausman  
Katelyn Bakker  
Sydney Barton  
Caeley Coady  
Julia Fink  
Lili Fischer  
Zephy Forsyth  
Emma Gardner  
Kilynn Hitchings  
Lillian Kallenberger  
Emma Malmberg  
Alison Meagher  
Ana Molano  
Elliana Nelson  
Skye Rhoten  
Adelyn Sittig

## **ALTO**

Emily Brennom  
Ruthellen Brooks  
Emily Carlo  
Emily Clouser  
Mattie Dooley  
Abigail Edlemon  
Braelyn Ensor  
Eileen Gavin  
Emma Hawkinson  
Karli Jirava  
Jamie Knox  
Darby Lake  
Essie Riker  
Calista Rowe  
Akela Salter  
Davan Smith  
Sydney Tucker  
Lorelei Walker  
Emalee Warren  
Grace Welveart

## **TENOR**

Matthew Anderson  
Spencer Anderson  
Samuel Bast  
Aaron Copic  
Bryson Grove  
Juan Morales  
Brennan Regan  
Matthew Richardson  
Logan Stapp  
Isaac Ullestad  
Luke Walter

## **BASS**

Marcos Antunez  
Adrian Benson  
Noah Britten  
Kaleb Carda  
Travis Dodd  
Noah Fredericksen  
Noah Hartman  
Jacob Hennager  
Gage Juhl  
Micaiah Krutsinger  
Nathan Lollar  
Jackson Minton  
Gabe Mueller  
Tyler Snodgrass  
Brock Trenkamp  
Jon Turner  
Gabe Wagner

# WIND ENSEMBLE

## FLUTE

Juliana Becerra  
\*Carissa Blumka  
Miranda Finn  
Jennifer Valenzuela

## OBOE

Lauren Geerlings  
\*Lin Nikkel

## BASSOON

Marco Olachnovitch  
\*Sophia Patchin  
Kate VanGorp

## CLARINET

\*Lindsay Davison  
Angelina DeSocio  
Katherine Czarnik  
\*Madeline Echternacht  
Ben Medbourn  
Elias Phipps  
Brayden Stockman

## SAXOPHONE

Hannah Elerding  
Luke McIlhon  
\*Logan Neifert  
Lindy Slocum  
Claire Uselding

## TRUMPET

\*Megan Bennett  
Abigail Holschlag  
Sean Kiefer  
Kate McAlister  
Dora Roorda  
Rylee Scheel  
Evan Wahlstrom

## HORN

Patrick Mooney  
\*Morgan Stumpf  
+Maddy Tarantelli

## TROMBONE

Jacob Chaplin  
Ryan Hyslope  
\*Spencer O'Riley  
Sophia Pastorino  
Spencer Schnetzer  
Morgan Uitermarkt

## EUPHONIUM

Morgan Westphal

## TUBA

Aidan Anderson  
\*Isaac Sand

## PERCUSSION

Bradley Bodkin  
Jess Herron  
Preston Hirsch  
Randall Kinner  
Claretta Larson  
Tess Lillibridge  
Jesse Sheehan  
\*Xander Webb  
Justin Weber  
Matthew Webster

## PIANO

+Vakhtang Kodanashvili  
Juan Dominguez Rincon

## BASS

Sam Stover

## HARP

Mara Caylor

\* = Section Leader  
+ Faculty Artist

# PROGRAM NOTES

When I was writing **Dancing Fire**, I wanted to write a piece for my high school band program and its directors for the great pieces we played, the fun times we had, and the excitement our bands created at our concerts. The picture I had in my head before I began writing was a group of people surrounding a large bonfire during the night. These people began dancing around the fire, having fun, singing songs, and ultimately, celebrating life.

Once I had that picture in my head, along with the constant repeating motif that eventually became the melody for the entire piece, the rest of the work fit together nicely, and in two weeks it was done. The composition brings this mental picture I had to life in a fun and energetic way with dance-like percussion and a constant groove, as well as its contagious melody, a mysterious soprano sax solo, and a climactic ending.

This was written in dedication to the Arlington High School Band Program in Arlington, Texas, and to my former band directors, Michael Hejny, Nathan Burum, and Nathan Hervey.

- Program Note by composer

During the summer and fall of 2020, Colorado experienced the largest and most destructive wildfires in its entire history. Western U.S. wildfires have become an all too common occurrence as human-caused climate change has continued to affect the environment in dramatic fashion. The Cameron Peak and East Troublesome Fires burned hundreds of thousands of acres in portions of Rocky Mountain National Park and surrounding national forests, only a couple dozen miles from my own home. A gigantic pyrocumulonimbus cloud rose above the mountains and could be seen from hundreds of miles away. Ash fell for weeks and the sun was obscured almost completely during the fire's peak. Were it not for an unexpectedly early and heavy snow, the damage could have been exponentially worse.

My new piece deals with the anger, fear, and frustration I felt during these fires and continue to linger as our fragile and beautiful planet remains in such peril. In a single movement, my composition will depict the progression of these events, from the initial spark (theorized to be caused by stray gunfire), to the incredible destructive climax, and concluding with the anxious calm of a snow-covered field with embers still smoldering beneath. Aleatoric techniques, myriad percussion, and a digital soundscape will enhance the already dramatic palette of the wind ensemble. A major source of inspiration that is referenced throughout is Scriabin's *Vers la Flamme* ("Towards the Flame") which the pianist Horowitz claimed was a depiction of a cataclysmic heat and fire that would consume the earth.

- Program Note by composer

Composed in 2015 **Embers** is a short, lyrical concert work which evokes the subtle glow of a camp fire just after the final flame has withered.

- Program Note by composer

Man has burned effigies of objects as a way of celebration for hundreds if not thousands of years. Historically, a wicker man was a large wicker construction in the shape of a man that was reportedly used by the ancient pagan Druids. Hollow inside, it has been recorded that the Druids would confine a human sacrifice within, usually somebody guilty of a crime worthy of a death sentence.

This work does is not a musical reflection of ancient practices but of modern ones. There are many different celebrations using giant wicker man effigies around the world. They are used as art displays, at music festivals and a wicker man was also used as thematic material in a song by the rock band Iron Maiden.

**Burning the Wickerman** is an exciting, dramatic work depicting the building of a wicker man followed by its burning. While melodically it is sinister at times, that is not a reflection on the history, but on the properties of fire itself. The piece ends with the Wickerman engulfed in flames as a celebration of new beginnings.

Composed for the 2020 Music for All National High School Honor Band, Timothy J. Holton, conductor, but not performed due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

- Program Note by composer

**Set the World on Fire** for SATB choir and wind ensemble uses quotes from the writings of St. Catherine of Siena. "You are an ever-burning fire; You are a fire which drives away all coldness and illumines minds with its light, and with this light you have made known your truth." The work was composed for Siena Heights University in Michigan, but was completed in the middle of the Pandemic and therefore was never performed. Tonight is the world premiere performance of this work by renown composer David Gillingham.