Wright State Percussion Festival

No. 2 2018

Performance 7 P.M.
Clinics 2 P.M.

April 28, 2018

Wright State University Creative Arts Center
Schuster Concert Hall
Wright State University, the College of Liberal Arts, and CELIA: The Ohio Center for Excellence in Collaborative Education, Leadership, and Innovation in the Arts, are pleased to present the Wright State Percussion Festival. This dynamic event headlines both traditional and avant garde percussionists and compositions. From the U.S. Army Old Guard Fife and Drum Corps Drumline to the Percussion Collective Robert van Sice to established and up-and-coming percussion artists and ensembles, be prepared to experience a constellation of percussion genius!

This exciting performance is the capstone event in CELIA’s 2017–18 Distinguished Visiting Artist Series and is generously supported by the Virginia B. Toulmin Foundation. Information about next season’s DVA events will be forthcoming on CELIA’s website, wright.edu/celia/events.

We’re so delighted that you’ve joined us this evening! Please take a moment to fill out the survey form found in this program and hand it to an attendant or deposit it in the tray right outside the concert hall as you leave. Your feedback helps us plan future events and secure funding for the exceptional programs for which CELIA is known.

Thank you, and we hope you enjoy tonight’s performance.

Wright State University’s Departments of Art and Art History and Theatre, Dance, and Motion Pictures and the School of Music have joined together to form CELIA—Collaborative Education, Leadership, and Innovation in the Arts—an Ohio Center of Excellence at Wright State University.

CELIA acts to develop initiatives to enrich the already-remarkable artistic climate in the Dayton region—an important tool for economic development.

CELIA enhances ongoing collaborations and nurtures new partnerships. CELIA projects demonstrate high-quality, innovative collaborations, and the ability to further strengthen the reputation of the arts at Wright State.
Ionisation (1931).................................................................Edgard Varèse (1883–1965)
Svet Stoyanov, Ian Rosenbaum, SSG Jeff Brooks, SSG Mike Dillman,
Dan Moell, Taylor Williams, Bryce Hopwood, Tyler Ohlemacher, Jaime Kice,
Josh Roberts, Stephen Monath, Jackson Riffle, Guthrie Douglas, Daniel Page,
Jerry Noble, conductor

Coaster (2018)........................................................................Brooks Frederickson (b. 1987)

Old Guard Drumline Feature..............................................Various composers
MSG Mark Reilly, SSG Jeff Brooks, SSG Mike Dillman,
SSG Jeremy Marks, SSG Nathan Reifsteck

Respect (2018).......................................................................Mike McIntosh (b. 1969)
Mike McIntosh, Jerry Noble, SSG Jeff Brooks, members of Old Guard

Water, Mvt. 3: Todos los rio El rio (2013).............................Alejandro Viñao (b. 1951)
Evan Miller, Dan Moell, Stephen Monath,
Liz Procopio, Jackson Riffle, Andrew Seivert

Short Intermission

Seaborne (2018)...................................................................Garth Neustadter (b. 1986)

Sextet (1985).........................................................................Steve Reich (b. 1936)
The Percussion Collective Robert van Sice:
Jonny Allen, Victor Caccese, Kramer Milan
Ian Rosenbaum, Svet Stoyanov, Terry Sweeney

Special thanks to:
CELIA, D’Addario, Pearl/Adams, Vic Firth, Zildjian, Evans/Promark,
Percussive Arts Society
This commission of a 30-minute work for six percussionists and video projection is at the nexus of the percussive art soundscape and the visual celebration of our endangered oceans. Just as rhythm and the percussive voice are the heartbeat of music, our precious oceans are the lifeblood of the planet and thus our very existence. Seaborne attempts to awaken sensibilities in the listener/viewer to both the importance and beauty that our oceans possess. For this project, the Collective’s Artistic Director Robert van Sice brought together two extraordinary young talents: Emmy Award–winning composer Garth Neustadter and water photographer/videographer Kjell van Sice. Neustadter’s mastery of cinematic composition and Kjell van Sice’s poetic aquatic images proved to be a powerful collaboration. The piece was designed to be the sister piece to one of the seminal pieces in the percussion repertoire, Steve Reich’s iconic “Sextet.”

“The ocean is an environment that stimulates the senses like no other place that we can visit. My passion for seeking and experiencing extraordinary beauty prompted me to create cinematography inspired by the physical aspects of moving underwater like buoyancy, weightlessness, the sensation of breath, and meditative contemplation. ‘Seaborne’ is just a glimpse of a possible lifetime of extraordinary moments to be had not just in the ocean, but in all of nature, should we open our minds to it. It is an invitation not only to see the ocean’s incredible beauty and raw potency, but also an opportunity to consider how the place from which we look determines what it is we see. Flying high above the architecture of coral reefs in the southwestern Indian Ocean, the expanse of this giant living tapestry seems endless, but it is merely a tiny dot encircled by a much larger sea. In the same way, the millions of bubbles in a breaking wave exist simultaneously on their own and in a larger context. By drawing parallels between motion film and music, ‘Seaborne’ combines to interpret the ocean in a way that goes beyond what either art form could do alone.”

—Kjell van Sice

“This work explores our perception and perspectives of water from aerial, surface, and underwater vantage points. Water possesses an inherent motion and rhythm, and I am interested in reflecting the tension between the potential and kinetic energies we observe, as well as our perception of time. Musically, my language attempts to find a balance between gestures that feel almost primal or ancient juxtaposed against more modern and familiar textures. Often, motifs are introduced in simple ensemble unisons, gradually developing and evolving in ways that might emulate a communal improvisatory experience. Overall, I attempt to create a strong synergy and synesthesia with the photography, in that our perception of color and light is strongly reflected in the music throughout.”

—Garth Neustadter

Special thanks to the Brookby Foundation for making this commission possible, and additional thanks to Alex Hemingway for color grading the video, and to Soraya Simi for serving as assistant editor.
The Percussion Collective Robert van Sice

The Percussion Collective Robert van Sice emerged from one of the world’s foremost student percussion ensembles, the Yale Percussion Group. Over the past two decades, van Sice and his students have created a distinctly insightful approach to the performance of percussion chamber music, challenging the limits of excellence and thrilling audiences. As the format of The Percussion Collective Robert van Sice is an assemblage of talent rather than a fixed ensemble, it morphs from an intimate duo to a large-scale ensemble, providing programs for a wide variety of audiences and venues. Its members include percussionists who perform with the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center and Camerata Pacifica, as well as faculty members at universities such as Miami’s Frost School of Music, Michigan State University, the University of Massachusetts, Vanderbilt’s Blair School of Music, University of Kansas, and other leading professional orchestras and music organizations.

The Percussion Collective Robert van Sice would like to thank its generous partners from the percussion industry, Adams Musical Instruments, Pearl Drums, Vic Firth Sticks and Mallets, Zildjian Cymbals, Evans Drumheads, and Black Swamp Percussion, for their unending support.

Artistic Director
Robert van Sice

Robert van Sice is considered one of the world’s foremost performers of contemporary music for marimba. In an effort to establish the instrument as a serious artistic vehicle, he has premiered over 100 works throughout the world. Four of the seminal works in the marimba repertoire were written for him: Peter Klatzow’s Dances of Earth and Fire; Alejandro Viñao’s Estudios de Frontera; Martin Bresnick’s double marimba concerto, Grace; and James Wood’s Spirit Festival with Lamentations. Spirit Festival is unique in introducing the newly developed quarter-tone marimba, an innovative instrument recalling the marimba’s ancient sonic routes while establishing new parameters for modern expressionism.

In his varied performing career, van Sice has appeared as a soloist with symphony orchestras and given recitals in more than 30 countries throughout Europe, North America, Africa, and the Far East. Le Journal de Genève describes his interpretation of Toru Takemitsu’s concerto Gítímalýa as “marvelous. In his hands, the marimba becomes a voice with richness of sound and expression that one would never expect from a percussion instrument. A well-deserved triumph.” He is frequently invited to appear as a soloist with Europe’s leading contemporary music ensembles including the London
Sinfonietta, Ensemble Contrechamps in Geneva, and L’Itinéraire in Paris. Van Sice has also appeared as a soloist with many of percussion’s finest ensembles including Amadinda, Kroumata, Tambuco, Percussive Rotterdam, and Sō Percussion.

In 1989 van Sice gave the first solo marimba recital at the Concertgebouw in Amsterdam. He has since appeared in many of world’s major concert halls in London, Paris, Vienna, Madrid, Milan, Stockholm, Oslo, Tokyo, Beijing, Seoul, Toronto, Mexico City, New York, Chicago, and Los Angeles. His concerts have frequently been broadcast by the BBC, Swedish Radio, Norwegian Radio, Radio France, WDR, and NPR, among many others. He is a frequent guest at major music festivals throughout the world, such as Ars Musica, Blossom, Darmstadt Course for New Music, Archipel, London Meltdown, Norfolk Chamber Music Festival, Bela Bartok Festival in Hungary, North American New Music Festival, and the Ultima Festival in Oslo. Long a champion of the music of Olivier Messiaen, van Sice has performed on numerous occasions as a soloist alongside the composer’s wife, pianist Yvonne Loriod.

Van Sice is also one of the world’s most respected percussion teachers. His former students play in symphony orchestras and contemporary chamber ensembles and maintain solo careers in more than 20 countries. His students have won prizes the world over in both chamber music and solo competitions. In 1997 van Sice was appointed director of percussion studies at the Yale University School of Music. He subsequently joined the faculties of the Peabody Institute of The Johns Hopkins University and the Curtis Institute of Music. From 1988 to 1997, he headed Europe’s first diploma program for solo marimbists at the Rotterdam Conservatory in the Netherlands. Van Sice has given over 400 master classes in 25 countries including the Royal College of Music in London, Amsterdam Conservatory, Vienna State Music Academy, The Juilliard School, Eastman School of Music, and Oberlin College. He often serves on juries of international competitions and has released six CDs on the Etcetera, Mode, and New World labels. For the last 15 years, van Sice has collaborated with the Adams Corporation in the Netherlands in the design of a series of marimbas bearing his name.

The United States Army Old Guard Fife and Drum Corps Drumline

Steeped in tradition, The Old Guard Drumline is a living example of the origins of modern rudimental drumming. The drumline employs a conglomerate of styles to include traditional American rudimental drumming of the 18th and 19th centuries, Swiss, Scottish, and some modern rudimental concepts. The ensemble has been influenced by some of the great names of traditional rudimental drumming, including Earl Sturtze, Bobby Thompson, Les Parks, John S. Pratt, and Nick Attanasio. It has also been influenced by some of the modern greats as well.

Members of the drumline come from a variety of different musical backgrounds including traditional fife and drum, drum and bugle corps, Scottish pipe band, and orchestral. It is
these broad stylistic influences that make the drumline so unique.
The line performs on handmade rope-tensioned snare and bass drums designed specifically for their performance demands. The snare drums employ a Kevlar head and measures 17” in diameter by 20” long. The bass drums measure 26” in diameter and 18” across the shell. All drums are emblazoned with the Regimental Colors of the 3d U.S. Infantry Regiment (The Old Guard) flanked by the campaign streamers for all battles the Old Guard participated.

Michael McIntosh is a graduate of Butler University, earning a Bachelor of Arts in Music with an emphasis in composition.

In addition to designing, coordinating, consulting, and composing for many marching bands all over the United States, McIntosh is the percussion coordinator for the Music for All Summer Symposium, as well as the percussion caption supervisor, music coordinator, and one of two percussion designers for The Cavaliers Drum and Bugle Corps. From 1997 to 2011, McIntosh was a percussion specialist at Carmel High School in Carmel, Indiana, and an integral part of the 2001 and 2017 AAA National Champion programs and the 2005, 2012, 2016, and 2017 Bands of America Grand National Champions.

An active clinician and adjudicator, McIntosh gives clinics throughout the U.S., Europe, and Asia, having performed clinics in Japan and Beijing, China. He is a current adjudicator for Winter Guard International and Bands of America. Compositionally, McIntosh has had works commissioned for the Midwest Band Directors Convention and the West Point Hellcats. Currently he has works published by SmartMusic, Row-Loff Publications, Yamaha Sounds of Summer, Tap Space Publications, Key Poulan Music, Drop 6 Media, The Hal Leonard Corporation, Innovative Percussion, Marching Show Concepts, and Dynamic Marching.

McIntosh is a Yamaha artist/clinician and a signature drumstick artist with Promark. He endorses EVANS drumheads, Zildjian cymbals, and Planet Waves Cables.

McIntosh resides in Minnesota with his wife, Joy, and their two beautiful daughters, Scotlyn and Graysen.

Neutrals is a percussion duo based in Dayton, Ohio. Formed in 2016 by Evan Miller and Andrew Seivert, the duo combines their Rust Belt underground upbringings and classical training into a contemporary ensemble firmly grounded by their Midwestern roots. Equal parts written works and electroacoustic improvisation, Neutrals performs established percussion duo repertoire, drone-based sound explorations, and, above all, commissioned works by living composers. Past and current collaborators
include composers Rob Funkhouser, Nate May, Hugh Sheehan, Brooks Frederickson, percussionist Aaron Michael Butler, Cincinnati experimental ensemble Knee Play, and Indianapolis-based production company NoExit Performance.

Evan Miller is a percussionist based in Dayton, Ohio. His interests lie in performing the wide range of contemporary solo and chamber music for percussion, as well as experimental performance and noise.

Andrew Seivert currently teaches at Brookville City Schools, where he serves as the Assistant Director of Bands, and Director of Percussion. He has written music for solo and chamber percussion and currently writes and arranges music for marching bands and indoor percussion. Seivert received the Charles R. Spinney Music Composition Award in 2015.

Jerry Noble is director of percussion at Wright State University, a member of the Dayton Philharmonic, vice president of PAS–Ohio Chapter, and a performer with his pop/jazz group Moment’s Notice. This summer he joins the faculty at Brevard Music Center. Previously, Noble was a member of the USAF Band of Flight, performing 1,500-plus concerts throughout the Midwest, including performances for presidents and other heads of state. He has presented clinics at PASIC, OMEA, Ontario Day of Percussion, Interlochen Arts Academy, Zhengzhou Normal University in China, and throughout the United States (including Alaska and Hawaii). In 2017, Noble was awarded a Wright State University CELIA Fellowship.

Noble has led Wright State Percussion in concert at the Percussive Arts Society International Convention (winners—2016 PAS International Percussion Competition), Ohio Music Educator Association Conferences, Ohio Days of Percussion, Interlochen Arts Academy, and the Niui Valley Percussion Festival (Hawaii). Former/current students hold positions with the U.S. Navy Bands, Old Guard Fife and Drum Corps, Rhythm X, Phantom Regiment staff, Mansfield Symphony, University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee, and University of Cincinnati–Bearcat Bands; have performed with the Cincinnati Symphony, Buffalo Philharmonic, and Fort Wayne Philharmonic; and serve as active educators and judges.

Noble performs regularly with the Cincinnati Symphony, Louisiana Philharmonic, Fort Wayne Philharmonic, and the Indianapolis Chamber Orchestra. He has appeared as guest principal timpanist with the Cincinnati Symphony, Hunan Symphony (China), Alabama Symphony, West Virginia Symphony, and the New Mexico Symphony. Additionally, Noble has performed for nationally touring Broadway shows, toured the Caribbean as a Princess Cruises drummer, served as University of Cincinnati Bearcats Bands percussion staff, and was a cast member/performer with Star of Indiana’s “Brass Theater.”

Noble is a performing artist for Zildjian, Pearl/Adams, Pro-Mark, and Evans. He serves as a consultant for D’Addario & Co.
Wright State University Percussion Ensemble

Wright State Percussion Ensemble is composed of active teachers and professional performers. Past performances include the Percussive Arts Society International Convention (winners—2016 PAS International Percussion Competition), Ohio Music Educator Association Conferences, Ohio Days of Percussion, Interlochen Arts Academy, and the Niu Valley Percussion Festival (Hawaii). Notably they performed for Tom Hanks at Rise.Shine., a Wright State University fundraising gala.

The group has performed in recital with Mike Burritt, So Percussion, Keith Aleo, members of NEXUS, Rich Redmond (Jason Aldean’s drummer), and Nick Angelis. Current students perform with the Mansfield Symphony, Richmond Symphony, Rhythm X, ConneXus Indoor Percussion, Columbus (Indiana) Philharmonic, Cincinnati Tradition, and the Lansing Symphony, and members will be attending Brevard Music Center this summer. Wright State Percussion students have hosted and performed in masterclass for Robert van Sice, Rich Weiner, Kenny Aronoff, Jeff Hamilton, Gwen Dease, Bob Becker, Peter Erskine, Tim Feeney, Mike Burritt, Kevin Bobo, Stuart Saunders Smith, Jim Culley, Josh Quillen, Jim Rupp, David Fishlock, Braham Dembar, and Patti Niemi.

Former and current students are performing/have performed with the U.S. Army Old Guard Fife and Drum Corps, United States Navy Bands, Carnival Cruiseline, Cincinnati Symphony, United States Air Force Band of Flight, Buffalo Philharmonic, Mansfield Symphony, Lansing Symphony, United States Marine Bands, Indianapolis Chamber Orchestra, Blast!, and Rhythm X, and are teaching/have taught at University of Cincinnati-Bearcat Bands, University of Wisonsin–Milwaukee, Indiana Wesleyan, Olivet College, Phantom Regiment, and Rhythm X. Former students have studied at Brevard Music Center, Eastern Music Festival, Chosen Vale, and Cloyd Duff Masterclass, served as intern at So Percussion Summer Institute, worked as teaching assistants at Brevard, and attended the Texas Music Festival.
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