

FLORIDA ATLANTIC UNIVERSITY
WIND ENSEMBLE

CBDNA Southern Division Conference

Kyle Prescott, conductor
Marc Decker, guest conductor
Matthew Nichols, percussion





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Greetings,

Florida Atlantic University takes special pride in the quality, talent and dedication of our music faculty and students, whose performances are eagerly anticipated and well attended by greatly appreciative audiences. FAU's Department of Music offers students a wide variety of educational opportunities, including participation in ensembles of many kinds and hands-on experience in America's first university-based commercial recording studio, Hoot/Wisdom Recordings.

Dr. Kyle Prescott, FAU's Director of Bands, is doing a truly outstanding job of leading the rapid growth of our band program. The FAU Wind Ensemble has developed into one of the premier groups of its kind in Florida, and the Marching Owls infused tremendous spirit into FAU's Conference-USA Championship football season. The band program at FAU is one of our "Points of Pride."

Music is an integral component of life at FAU, and we are very grateful to Dr. Prescott, Music Department Chair Rebecca Lautar, Marching Band Director Dr. Marc Decker and all members of our music faculty for their wonderful work. Our thanks also go out to all of you who are attending this conference for the personal role you are playing in bringing beautiful music to the world.

Sincerely,

Michael J. Horswell
Dean

FLORIDA ATLANTIC UNIVERSITY
WIND ENSEMBLE

PROGRAM

Imagined Adventures: March of the West River (2020)*

KEVIN WILT (b. 1984)

Atlantic (2014)

JAMIE THIERMAN (b. 1988)

Marc Decker, *conductor*

Concertino for Percussion and Winds (2020)*

JOSHUA NICHOLS (b. 1989)

Matthew Nichols, *percussion*

AMP (2014)

SCOTT MCALLISTER (b. 1969)

Symphony No. 2 (2019)**

I. Andante: with foreboding

II. Adagio: with nostalgia

III. Moderato-Allegro: passacaglia and fugue

JAMES SYLER (b. 1961)

* World premiere

** Consortium Premiere

WIND ENSEMBLE | PROGRAM NOTES

Kevin Wilt (b. 1984) composes music that balances sophistication with accessibility and experimentation with craftsmanship. He recently composed the first two of his Imagined Adventures series for Michael Francis and The Florida Orchestra. He won the Fresh Squeezed Opera Call for Scores with his chamber opera, *Prix Fixe*, and the Musical Chairs Chamber Ensemble Composer Search. He was awarded a grant by the Atlantic Coast Conference Band Directors Association to create *Urban Impressions*, a multi-movement work for large wind ensemble. He was a finalist for the ASCAP/CBDNA Frederick Fennel Prize, the Symphony Number One Call for Scores III, the Hartford Opera Theater Call for Scores, and the American Prize in both the band and chamber music categories. Kevin holds degrees from Michigan State University (D.M.A. and M.M.) and Wayne State University (B.M.). He is Associate Professor of Music and Composer-in-Residence at Florida Atlantic University in Boca Raton.

March Of The West River is the third in a series of pieces called Imagined Adventures; short, programmatic works based on childhood fantasies. This piece suggests the timeless childhood game of "Army" as it is played by rambunctious pre-adolescents on the streets and backyards of a typical suburban neighborhood called "West River Estates." Although it contains

martial, march-like elements, they are filtered through the energy and innocence of kids. Not only are these adventures about childhood fantasies, but for me, they are also about composer fantasies. Writing these pieces allows me to play in a film music-inspired sandbox I might otherwise not get to do.

Jamie Thierman is a composer of classical and film music, a lover of drums from around the world, and a born and bred Alaskan. Jamie moved to Los Angeles in 2010 to attend the University of California, Los Angeles as a Ph.D. composition student, where she studied composition under David Lefkowitz, Ian Krouse, and Paul Chihara. At UCLA she received the Jerry Goldsmith and the Hugo Davis Composition Awards. Currently Jamie is working as a composer and orchestrator in Los Angeles, writing music for chamber groups, wind ensemble, and independent films, and assisting in the orchestration of major movies and TV shows including *Agents of Shield*, *Outlander*, *Dark Tower*, *Despicable Me 3* and many more.

Atlantic is a slow but moving three-minute piece written for standard wind ensemble. Based in a wandering texture, the piece modulates through several unexpected key areas and tonalities.

Scott McAllister completed his undergraduate degrees in performance and composition from The Florida State University and his doctorate in composition from the Shepherd School of Music at Rice University. McAllister has received numerous commissions, performances, and awards throughout the United States, Europe, and Asia. His music has been featured at the Aspen, Chautauqua, and The Prague/American Institute Summer Festivals. McAllister's music has been performed and/or commissioned by notable ensembles and soloists including The American Composers Orchestra, The Rascher Quartet, New York Philharmonic, Chicago Symphony, I Musici de Montreal, Charles Neidich, Richard Stoltzman, The Verdehr Trio, Jacksonville Symphony, Da Camera, Waco Symphony, The United States New Music Ensemble, and The President's Own Marine Band. McAllister was awarded first prize in The Ladislav Kubik International Composition Competition and was a winner of an ASCAP Fellowship award. Scott McAllister's music is recorded on the Naxos, Albany, Centaur, and Summit Records labels and his music can be found at Lydmusic.com. Scott McAllister is Professor of Composition at Baylor University.

By itself the title, ***AMP***, could denote several different things. In this case it is actually an abbreviation for "amphetamines." Amphetamines are substances taken to boost energy, mood and confidence, as well as to suppress appetite. AMP was written "in memory of Brian," who was a much beloved, talented, and accomplished student of the composer who died of a drug overdose. AMP begins with a wall of chaos representing the climax of an addicted

episode. Then the first statement of "Brian's" theme is stated in the clarinets with a two-note motive emulating the two syllables in his name while small cluster chords emulate the constant temptation of addiction. In fact, every time this two-note theme is heard one can readily imagine the emotions behind them. The middle section uses a famous chord progression from Radiohead's *Creep*, which was one of Brian's favorite songs. The second chaotic episode occurs again which is followed by the return of the earlier driving section and leads to the fullest and loudest statement of Brian's theme using the optional organ part with the full ensemble. The composition ends solemnly with the solo piano (which was Brian's instrument) stating the theme in its most plain form. AMP was not written for Brian only, but also for "any others suffering from addiction."

James Syler was born in Hyde Park, NY and raised in New York and Boca Raton, Florida. He was educated at Northern Illinois University (B.M.), the University of Miami (M.M.) and the University of Texas at Austin. He has studied composition privately with composers Alfred Reed, Karl Korte and Pulitzer prizewinner Michael Colgrass. Equally at ease with modern and traditional techniques, his compositions have been noted for their lyricism, energy and drama. He has developed a personal style that is eclectic and innovative, yet able to communicate with a variety of audiences.

Awards include two grants from the American Music Center in New York, the 2016 College Band Directors National Association Young Band Composition Contest for Wu Xing: Concertino for Two Percussion, the 1993 National Band Association Composition Award and the 1993 Arnauld Gabriel Composition Award for The Hound of Heaven, and more than 35 guest composer residencies at colleges and universities in the US, Canada, and Brazil. To date he has completed more than 30 commissions in chamber, choral, orchestral, and wind ensemble forms.

Since 2001, Mr. Syler has been a lecturer at the University of Texas at San Antonio and the University of the Incarnate Word in San Antonio where he teaches composition. He is married to pianist Elizabeth Gutierrez and resides in San Antonio, Texas.

The foundation of ***Symphony No. 2*** is an ascending three-note motive of C-Ab-B. This motive is the basis for the primary 12-tone theme heard at the beginning. Because there is no narrative, the structure is held together by three traditional musical forms.

Movement I is a modified sonata form with a mood of foreboding. It may feel nervous, alarming, comical at times, and militaristic. Movement II is an ABA form built on an excerpt of the original theme from movement I. The zenith of the movement is a quiet chorale. This movement may feel like it is traveling and looking back with nostalgia. Movement III is a passacaglia and eight variations followed by a double fugue featuring two subjects heard simultaneously.

The themes of the previous two movements reappear as the music develops into a dissonant texture that transitions to the opening bass ostinato. As the brass build tension, the music pushes towards its inevitable new tonic of G major.

Commissioned by a consortium of 16 university ensembles, the first performance was September 26, 2019 by the Wichita State University Wind Ensemble, Dr. Timothy Shade, conductor.

FLORIDA ATLANTIC UNIVERSITY WIND ENSEMBLE | **BIOGRAPHIES**

A flagship performing ensemble at FAU, the Wind Ensemble was formed from the previous University Band in 2006. Since then the FAU Wind Ensemble has accepted invitations to perform at three Southern Division Conferences of the College Band Director's National Association in Louisiana, South Carolina, and Georgia, and the Florida Music Educator's Association conference in Tampa. The Wind Ensemble has been privileged to work closely with composers including Bruce Broughton, Libby Larson, Bruce Adolphe, Andrew Boss, James Syler, Joel Puckett, Steven Bryant, Scott McAllister, Jamie Thierman, Michael Markowski, FAU composer-in-residence Kevin Wilt, and with the Project Fusion saxophone quartet in a project for Hoot-Wisdom Recordings.

Flute/ Piccolo

Elena Artiles
Joella Dunn
Tara Lepick
Anita McClane

Oboe/ English Horn

Mark Bejenaru
Lena Sharman
Gabe Ugarte

Bassoon

Eduardo Acosta Penalver
Miranda Boheme

Clarinet

John Bell
Cooper Garcia
Kiethlyn Gilbert
Harlen Golbe
Ana Mattos-Lebron
Kevin Ramirez

Bass Clarinet

Aaron Brenner
DJ Harpole

Saxophone

Taylor Casey
Jacob McConnell
Cory Smalley
Malik Turner

Trumpet

Bruna Bianchini
Shane Falco
Riley Frost
Dylan Joseph
Nicholas Perry
Gabriel Prescott

Horn

Cameron Ellis
David Klein
Blake Losey
Giancarlo Robbles

Trombone/ Bass Trombone

Patrick Hengstler
Franco Jimenez
Raphael Robles-Rivera
Elayna Scroggins
Jayla Thompson

Euphonium

James Jezierny

Tuba

Skylar Skiles
Garrett Sullivan

Percussion

Robert Flory
Brandon Fuentes
Matthew Hoopingarner
Mark Perez
Cristian Rodriguez
Luis Small
Jae Xiong

Piano

Caleb Waymeyer

FLORIDA ATLANTIC UNIVERSITY
WIND ENSEMBLE | **BIOGRAPHIES**



Kyle Prescott is in his sixteenth year as Director of Bands at Florida Atlantic University in Boca Raton, where he conducts the Wind Ensemble and Chamber Winds,

teaches the Graduate Wind Conducting program, and coordinates all aspects of the university bands. He taught in high schools of Idaho and Montana after receiving a BME from the Lionel Hampton School of Music at the University of Idaho. He holds the Master of Music and the Doctor of Musical Arts degrees in Wind Conducting from The University of Texas at Austin, where his principal conducting teacher was Jerry Junkin.

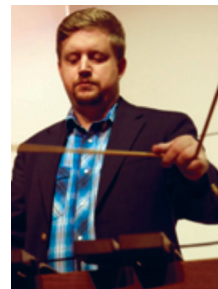
His research has been presented in sessions for NAFME, CBDNA, and the National Security Agency (NSA), and he is published in five volumes of the Teaching Music Through Performance series. In addition to ensembles at FAU, he conducts the Youth Orchestra of Palm Beach County and the professional Florida Wind Symphony. Dr. Prescott is a frequent ensemble clinician, conducting mentor, and guest conductor, including the Florida All State Orchestra and Band.



Marc Decker is an Assistant Professor of Music and the Associate Director of Bands/Director of Athletic Bands at Florida Atlantic University where his primary duties include

directing the Marching Owls, 'Parliament Sound' Pep Band, and Symphony Band. He holds an undergraduate degree in music education from the University of Illinois, and both an MA and DMA in conducting from the University of Iowa.

Dr. Decker's high school teaching experience was at the coastal town of South Haven, MI. He has held several collegiate teaching and conducting positions including Conductor in Residence at Gettysburg College, Director of Bands at American University, and Director of Instrumental Music and Music Education at Northwestern Oklahoma State University.



Matthew Nichols is the director of percussion studies at Florida Atlantic University, where he teaches percussion lessons, directs the percussion ensemble, and is percussion

caption head for the Marching Owls. Before living in Florida, he worked as an educator and performer in the Richmond area of Virginia. Mr. Nichols holds a Bachelor's degree from Virginia Commonwealth University, and a Master's degree from the University of Miami, where his teachers were Svet Stoyanov, Matthew Strauss, and John Yarling.

Mr. Nichols regularly performs with the Miami Symphony, the South Florida Symphony, the Florida Grand Opera, Nu Deco Ensemble, Atlantic Classical Orchestra, Palm Beach Symphony, New World Symphony, and with artists including Jacob Collier, Ben Folds, Cory Henry, Kishi Bashi, Stephen Marley, Danay Suarez, Emily King, Time for Three, Bilal, Dayramir Gonzalez, and more.

Inspiring achievement in music through student engagement in scholarship, diverse modes of creative activity, and community outreach.

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Department of Music

Dorothy F. Schmidt
College of Arts
and Letters

Florida Atlantic
University



FAU UNIVERSITY BANDS | FACULTY AND STAFF

Kyle Prescott, DMA
Director of Bands

Marc Decker, DMA
Associate Director of Bands

Courtney D. Jones, DMA
Assistant Professor of Trumpet; Artistic
Director of Jazz Orchestra

Matthew Nichols
Director of Percussion Studies

David Suarez
Program Assistant

Applied Teaching Faculty: Winds and Percussion

Elissa Lakofsky, Flute
Erin Gittlesohn, DMA, Oboe
Filipe Vina, DMA, Bassoon
Stojo Miserlioski, Clarinet
Kyle Mechmet, saxophone
Stan Spinola, DMA, Horn
Courtney D Jones, DMA, Trumpet
Jose Leon, DMA, Trombone
Calvin Jenkins, Tuba - Euphonium
Matthew Nichols, Percussion

University Bands Graduate Assistants

Bruna Bianchini, MM Trumpet Performance
Franco Jimenez, MM trombone Performance
Brandon Fuentes, MM Percussion Performance
Malik Turner, MM composition