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### Graduate Recital: John Gonzalez Jr., Conductor; February 18, 2023

John Gonzalez Jr.

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Illinois State University  
Wonsook Kim College of Fine Arts  
School of Music

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Graduate Recital  
John Gonzalez Jr., *Conductor*

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This recital is in partial fulfillment of the  
graduation requirements for the degree,  
Master of Music in Conducting.

Center for the Performing Arts  
February 18, 2023  
Saturday Afternoon  
3:00 p.m.

This is the ninety-third program of the 2022-2023 season.

# Program

Please silence all electronic devices for the duration of the concert. Thank you.

## *A Western Fanfare*

Eric Ewazen  
(born 1954)

## *Petite Symphonie*

Charles Gounod  
(1818-1893)

I. Adagio et Allegretto

II. Andante Cantabile

III. Scherzo

IV. Finale

## *Walk Slowly*

James Stephenson  
(born 1969)  
arranged by Maddie Stephenson

Lottie Heckman, *soprano*

## *Pines of Rome*

IV. The Pines of the Appian Way

Ottorino Respighi  
(1879-1936)  
transcribed by Joseph Kreines

## **ASSISTED LISTENING DEVICES**

The Center for the Performing Arts is equipped with an infrared audio amplification system for assisted listening. Headsets and receiver packs are available, free of charge, at the Box Office or by checking with the CPA Manager. An ID is needed to check out the device and must be returned to the CPA Manager at the end of the performance.

## Program Notes

### *A Western Fanfare*

Year Composed: 1997, Duration: 3:25

Eric Ewazen

**Eric Ewazen** is an American composer and educator. Receiving a B.M. at the Eastman School of Music, and M.M. and D.M.A. degrees from The Juilliard School, Dr. Ewazen's teachers include Milton Babbitt, Samuel Adler, Warren Benson, Joseph Schwantner and Gunther Schuller. He has been a faculty member at Juilliard since 1980.

*A Western Fanfare* is dedicated to the Music Academy of the West in Santa Barbara, California, which commissioned the work in honor of their fiftieth anniversary celebrations. Composed in the spring of 1997, the work was performed throughout the summer season at the Music Academy as a festive concert opener. The fanfare is a bold and uplifting work, reflecting the beauty and excitement of Santa Barbara's famous festival. Although it begins and ends with sonorous low brass and high trumpet flourishes, the middle section of the work is a lilting waltz. In the brief span of three minutes, a snapshot of joyful music making occurs.

### *Petite Symphonie*

Year Composed: 1885, Duration: 20:00

Charles Gounod

**Charles Gounod** was a French composer noted particularly for his operas. His father was a painter and his mother a pianist. During his youth he studied harmony and counterpoint with Antoine Reicha and eventually studied at the Paris Conservatory. In 1837 Gounod finished in second place for the Prix de Rome but won the award two years later. This prize allowed him to study for two years in Rome as well as Austria and Germany. During this time, he met Mendelssohn who would influence him compositionally. In 1843 his mother arranged for Charles to work at a church. Throughout the early part of his life he debated entering the priesthood. His music gained prominence in the 1850s through opera commissions. Gounod's most influential works include his numerous masses, the opera Faust (1859), and the piano piece Funeral March of a Marionette (1873).

*Petite Symphonie pour neuf instruments à vent*, or the "Little Symphony for Winds," was composed in 1885. Gounod's friend, and flute professor at the Paris Conservatoire, Paul Taffanel, commissioned him to write a chamber piece for winds. Its instrumentation of a wind octet, with an added flute part in honor of Taffanel, is modeled after Mozart's wind serenades.

This complete miniature symphony is elegant, delicate, and sweet. The first movement uses a slow introduction, like that of Haydn, and an Allegretto in sonata form. The second movement features the added flute part. The scherzo that follows is based on a hunting theme, with a lively finale in the fourth movement to end the symphony.

***Walk Slowly***

Year Composed: 1995/2020, Duration: 3:25

James Stephenson, arranged by Maddie Stephenson

**James Stephenson** came late to his full-time composing career, having performed 17 seasons as a trumpeter in the Naples Philharmonic in Florida, a position he won immediately upon graduating from the New England Conservatory of Music. As such, he is largely self-taught as a composer. Colleagues and friends encouraged his earliest efforts and enthusiasm followed from all directions.

His works have been performed by leading American orchestras and hailed by critics as having “straightforward, unabashedly beautiful sounds” and “Stephenson deserves to be heard again and again!” (Boston Herald). His music incorporates a fresh and energizing soundscape that delights the audience while maintaining integrity and worthwhile challenges for the performing musicians.

***Walk Slowly*** is originally a poem by **Adelaide Love** that was set to music as an art song for piano and soprano in 1995 – a very early work by James M. Stephenson. Later, a solo trumpet part was added, to form a trio. At the request of Dr. Mike Fansler, Director of Bands at Western Illinois University, a chamber winds adaptation was created to be featured for recording on an all-Stephenson collection in the spring of 2021. This adaptation was done by the composer's daughter, **Maddie Stephenson**, who is also a composer.

*“If you should go before me, dear, walk slowly  
Down the ways of death, well-worn and wide,  
For I would want to overtake you quickly  
And seek the journey’s ending by your side.*”

*I would be so forlorn not to descry you  
Down some shining highroad when I came;  
Walk slowly, dear, and often to look behind you  
And pause to hear if someone calls your name.”*

***The Pines of the Appian Way (from Pines of Rome)***

Year Composed: 1924, Duration: 5:30

Ottorino Respighi, transcribed by Joseph Kreines

**Ottorino Respighi** was an Italian composer known most famously for his Roman Trilogy. He studied at the Liceo of Bologna and later with Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov in St. Petersburg, where he was first violist in the Opera Orchestra. From his foreign masters Respighi acquired a command of orchestral color and an interest in orchestral composition.

***Pines of Rome*** is a tone poem for symphony orchestra in four movements by Respighi and it premiered in Rome in 1924. It is the Italian composer's tribute to scenes around his country's capital, some contemporary and some recalling the glory of the Roman Empire. It is Respighi's most frequently performed work. *Pines of Rome* is the second in a series of three tone poems by Respighi known as the Roman Trilogy. It was preceded by *Fountains of Rome* (1914–16) and followed by *Roman Festivals* (1929). In his own notes for *Pines of Rome*, Respighi wrote:

“While in *Fountains of Rome* [I] sought to reproduce by means of tones an impression of nature. In *Pines of Rome* [I] use nature as a point of departure to recall memories and visions. The century-old trees, which dominate so characteristically the Roman landscape, become testimony for the principal events in Roman life.”

The final movement, ***The Pines of the Appian Way***, closes the piece with a depiction of the Roman army marching into the city accompanied by trumpet fanfares and a pounding timpani beat.

**John Gonzalez, Jr.** is a second-year graduate student at Illinois State University currently pursuing a Master of Music degree in Wind Conducting under Dr. Anthony Marinello. In addition to his studies, John is also one of the band graduate teaching assistants. His duties include assisting with the Big Red Marching Machine, Pep Band, assisting with undergraduate conducting courses, as well as guest conducting the Wind Symphony, Symphonic Winds, Symphonic Band, and University Band.

Prior to attending Illinois State University, John was the Director of Bands and Choirs at Easton Valley High School in Preston, Iowa. Under his leadership the music department quickly became more active and student participation in all ensembles more than doubled. While at EVHS John was also the musical director and assistant play director in the theatre department. John is active as a private trombone instructor for students of all ages and skill levels and was previously on staff in the private lesson program through the Quad City Symphony Orchestra in Davenport, Iowa.

John graduated from Western Illinois University in 2016 with a Bachelor of Music in Music Education and a minor in Jazz Studies. He holds memberships with the National Association for Music Education, Iowa Bandmasters Association, and the Illinois Music Education Association. In spring 2022, John was awarded the CBDNA Mike Moss Conducting Fellowship – an award directed toward emerging wind band conductors from underrepresented backgrounds. John was also awarded a DFI Fellowship by the Illinois Board of Higher Education for the 2023 academic year which is intended to provide support for graduate students from underrepresented backgrounds intending to teach in higher education in the state of Illinois.

# Recital Chamber Players

## Flute

Kirsten Townander

## Oboe

Elli Ji

Emma Edwards

## Bassoon

Nick Filano

Rosalie Truback

## Clarinet

Alec Jenkins

Christian Rucinski

## Horn

Ryan Burns

Daniel Castillon, III

Kizzie Cobden

Carly Gussman

Jeason Lopez

Nicholas Steffenhagen

## Trumpet

Lauren Cancio

Katherine Freimuth

Chloe Horn

Joseph Johnson

Charlie Machamer

Seth Marshall

Joshua Mobley

Ryan Valdivia

## Trombone

Sophia Brattoli

Peyton Gray

Brett Harris

## Bass Trombone

Nick Sisson

## Euphonium

Phil Denzmore

Dylan Gray

## Tuba

JT Butcher

Micah Crouse

## Percussion

Noah Berkshier

Matt Boguslawski

Baryl Brandt

Sara Eckert

Aidan Perrault

## Organ

Dr. Tim Fredstrom

## Soprano

Lottie Heckman





## THANK YOU

### Illinois State University Wonsook Kim College of Fine Arts

Jean Miller, *dean*  
Polly Bedford, *director of development*  
Adriana Ransom, *director, School of Music*  
Nick Benson, *CPA Manager, Center for Performing Arts*  
Sara Semonis, *associate dean of research and planning*  
Janet Tulley, *assistant dean for enrollment and student services*  
Ann Haugo, *School of Theatre and Dance*  
Tyler Lotz, *interim director, Wonsook Kim School of Art*  
Rose Marshack, *director, Creative Technologies*  
Kendra Paitz, *director and chief curator, University Galleries*  
Stephanie Kohl Ringle, *business communications associate*  
Eric Yeager, *director, CFAIT*

### *Illinois State University School of Music*

A. Oforiwaa Aduonum, *Ethnomusicology*  
Allison Alcorn, *Musicology*  
Debra Austin, *Voice*  
Mark Babbitt, *Trombone*  
Emily Beinborn, *Music Therapy*  
Glenn Block, *Orchestra and Conducting*  
Andrew Bruhn, *Choir*  
Renee Chernick, *Group Piano*  
David Collier, *Percussion and Associate Director*  
Andrea Crimmins, *Music Therapy*  
Peggy Dehaven, *Office Support Specialist/Scheduling*  
Benjamin De Kock, *String Bass*  
Anne Dervin, *Clarinet and General Education*  
Gina Dew, *Music Education Advisor*  
Geoffrey Duce, *Piano*  
Tom Faux, *Ethnomusicology*  
Angelo Favis, *Guitar and Graduate Coordinator*  
Tim Fredstrom, *Choral Music Education*  
Trevor Gould, *Facilities Manager*  
David Gresham, *Clarinet*  
Rachel Grimsby, *Music Education*  
Mark Grizzard, *Theory and Choral Music*  
Christine Hansen, *Lead Academic Advisor*  
Kevin Hart, *Jazz Piano and Theory*  
Phillip Hash, *Music Education*  
Megan Hildebrandt, *Music Therapy*  
Rachel Hockenberry, *Horn*  
Martha Horst, *Theory and Composition*  
Mona Hubbard, *Office Manager*  
Igor Kalnin, *Violin*  
John Koch, *Voice*  
Jillian Kouzel, *Oboe*  
Marie Labonville, *Musicology*  
Apollo Lee, *Trumpet*  
Katherine J. Lewis, *Viola*  
TJ Mack, *Assistant Director of Bands*  
Roy D. Magnuson, *Theory and Composition and CTK\**  
Anthony Marinello III, *Director of Bands*  
Thomas Marko, *Director of Jazz Studies*  
Rose Marshack, *Music Business and Director of CTK\**  
Joseph Matson, *Musicology*  
Anne McNamara, *Trumpet*  
Shawn McNamara, *Music Education*  
Thornton Miller, *Musicology*  
Paul Nolen, *Saxophone*  
Kim Risinger, *Flute*  
Cindy Ropp, *Music Therapy*  
Andy Rummel, *Euphonium and Tuba*  
Midori Samson, *Bassoon*  
Carl Schimmel, *Theory and Composition*  
Daniel Schuetz, *Voice*  
Lydia Sheehan, *Bands Office Administrator*  
Anne Shelley, *Milner Librarian*  
Matthew Smith, *Creative Technologies*  
David Snyder, *Music Education*  
Alex Stephenson, *Theory and Composition*  
Ben Stiers, *Percussion and Theory*  
Erik Swanson, *Jazz Guitar*  
Cora Swenson Lee, *Cello*  
Elizabeth Thompson, *Voice*  
Tuyen Tonnu, *Piano*  
Kaitlyn Tossie, *Business Administrative Associate*  
Matthew Vala, *Voice*  
Rick Valentin, *Creative Technologies*  
Justin Vickers, *Voice*  
Michelle Vought, *Voice*  
Mack Wood, *Associate Director of Bands*

#### *Band Graduate Assistants*

John Gonzalez, Seth Marshall, Jeason Lopez

\*Creative Technologies Program (CTK)