

Liberty University School *of* Music

presents

University Band

Dr. Larry Seipp, *director*

April 15, 2025

Center for Music and the Worship Arts Concert Hall

MUSIC 050

7:30 PM

University Band

Program

Declaration Overture

Claude T. Smith
(1932-1987)

J.S. Jig

Brent Kerrick
(b. 1960)

Sevens

Sam Hazo
(b. 1966)

Corsican Litany

Vaclav Nelhybel
(1919-1996)

Prelude and Fugue in Bb Major

J.S. Bach
(1685-1750)
arr. R. Moehlmann

Star Wars: The Marches

John Williams
(b. 1932)
arr. Jerry Brubaker

Danzas Cubanas

Robert Sheldon
(b. 1954)

- PROGRAM NOTES -

Declaration Overture

Claude T. Smith (1932-1987) was one of the most successful composers of band music in the world when his untimely death brought an abrupt end to a brilliant career. He was the composer or arranger of over 100 publications, and he had clearly established himself as one of the most popular composers and conductor/clinicians of our time. A dedicated educator and prolific composer, he left a legacy of works for bands and orchestras at virtually every level.

Declaration Overture begins with a stately trumpet fanfare that introduces a five-note motif. This celebratory overture blossoms into a joyful concert selection that will be enthusiastically received each time it is presented. Interesting parts appear through all sections of the orchestra (including percussion) in this accessible and effective concert opener.

- *Program notes from publisher*

J.S. Jig

Clever and creative, this dance-like work combines the melodies of J. S. Bach with a lilting Irish jig for a most unique and entertaining work. Exchanges of the themes by various sections as well as a subtle percussion grooves bring out the best of all the themes while adding a fresh and appealing dimension overall.

- *Program notes from publisher*

Sevens

This jazz-flavored "barnburner" for wind symphony pays homage to the innovative concepts of George Gershwin and modern-day jazz composer Gordon Goodwin. The title refers to the common jazz seventh chord, the number of notes in many of the phrases of the piece, the 7/16 time signature that is found throughout the work and even the letter G, which is the seventh letter of the alphabet and Gershwin and Goodwin's shared initial.

- *Program notes from publisher*

Corsican Litany

In 1962, Vaclav Nelhybel received his first exposure to a concert band. He wrote: "The first band I heard played a piece by Persichetti, and it was so good I just caught fire. I was fascinated with the possibilities of what you can do with half an acre of clarinets, half an acre of flutes, and half an acre of percussion. So I said, why not try it? I did, and it seemed to open new creative channels in my mind." It was the enthusiasm of the students that truly inspired him to compose. His music is complex and exciting; it employs linear counterpoint, freely dissonant harmonic textures, and forceful rhythms.

Corsican Litany is based on a *vocero* first known to have been sung in 1775 at the funeral of a country doctor named Matju who had been murdered by his own patient, one Natale. A *vocero* in this context of a funeral, is a type of polyphonic, improvised funeral lament, often performed by women, and traditionally associated with mourning a death by violence. The melody is introduced mournfully, but grows steadily in passionate intensity until an astonishing climax is reached in the final menacing oath of vengeance.

- *Program notes from score*

- PROGRAM NOTES -

Prelude and Fugue in Bb Major

The Roland E. Moehlmann arrangement of Johann Sebastian Bach's *Prelude and Fugue in B-flat Major* was originally scored in 1955 and remains on band contest and festival lists. The fluid prelude establishes the melody and then it is amended musically with fascinating intricacy. Clarity of the composer's intent is certain in this time-honored arrangement. The work is featured in the well-known educational series *Teaching Music Through Performance in Band*.

Star Wars: The Marches

So many stunning marches were part of these epic motion pictures that they had to be combined in one powerful piece. This arrangement features: *Star Wars (Main Theme)*; *Parade of the Ewoks*; *The Imperial March*; *Augie's Great Municipal Band* and *The Throne Room*.

- Program notes from publisher

Danzas Cubanas

Danzas Cubanas by Robert Sheldon, is a set of three original and connected dance-like movements celebrating the joy and energy of Afro-Cuban music and people of this island nation. The opening conga sets the mood, followed by a gentle and alluring son-salsa. The closing dance is a fast-paced mambo.

- Program notes from publisher

- UNIVERSITY BAND -

Piccolo

Lauren Nelson

Flutes

Annabeth Hughes
Will Perdue
Bethany Cash
Alyssa White
Kayla Frazier
Haley Byers
Shelby Dryman

Eb Clarinet

Joel Manwiller

Clarinets

Jonathan Schreck
Lily Jones
Josh Sullivan
Hannah Deter
Betsy Robinson
Carolyn Nethercutt
Amelia Bennett
Delilah Hinnant
Jared Hollins
Amber Fredenburg

Bass Clarinet

McKenzie Dougherty

Bassoons

Hannah Smith
Madeline Smith

Alto Sax

Grace Goddard
Lane Parker
Elijah Wesson

Tenor Sax

William DeStefano

Bari Sax

Susannah DeStefano

French Horn

Elizabeth Rocha
Bradyn Minnick
Kaitlyn Williams
Ashley Brown
Gabbie Bermudez
Savanna Bessert
Zach Kneeland
Sydney Asher
Patrick Foos

Trumpet

Knox Alpaugh
Andrew Seipp
Gabby Galino
Ryan Harrison
Nataniel Sajouste
Grace Clark
Catherine Jones
Andrew Deffner
Jacob Byrnes

Trombones

Thomas Roder
Joel Bachmann
Eli Finley
Owen Seipp
Jhona Alexander
Jonathan Farley
Melanie Gerdeman
Taylor Nabinger

Euphoniums

David Downing
Olivia Wilkerson
Sawyer Deshon
Jackson Marton

Tubas

Mason Westcott
Nickolas Gibson
Tommy Nettleship
Carter Letchworth

Percussion

Hannah Bateman
Madison Kennedy
Taylor Kennedy
Trenton Kimzey
Caleb Prasad
Abigail Smith
Michael Willard
Bekah Zapanta

- DIRECTOR -



Dr. Larry Seipp

Dr. Larry Seipp is the Director of Athletic Bands and an Assistant Professor of Music at Liberty University in Lynchburg, Virginia. He primarily leads the university's athletic bands—including the marching and pep bands, conducts the University Band, and serves in various music education roles.

Under Dr. Seipp's leadership, the 250-member Liberty University "Spirit of the Mountain" Marching Band has upheld a strong national presence, performing at the 2022 Boca Raton Bowl, the 2024 VRBO Fiesta Bowl, and receiving an invitation to participate in the 2025 60th Presidential Inaugural Parade in Washington, D.C.

Before joining Liberty University, Dr. Seipp served as Director of Bands at Liberty Christian Academy and E.C. Glass High School, where he built award-winning programs. As a trumpet performer and educator, he has taught at James Madison University, Eastern Mennonite University, and Liberty University. He also performs regularly in the Lynchburg area and is a member of the Lynchburg Symphony.

With more than 25 years of experience in Virginia's music community, Dr. Seipp has contributed significantly as both a performer and educator. He has served as a concert band and marching band adjudicator and clinician throughout the region. His research on nonmusical factors—such as school size, student ethnicity, and socioeconomic status (as measured by FORL)—and their influence on VBODA band assessments aims to support value-added evaluations for administrators assessing both band directors and student learning outcomes.

Dr. Seipp holds degrees from Liberty University (B.M., 1996), James Madison University (M.M., 1998), and Liberty University (D.M.E., 2021), with studies focused on trumpet, leadership, and music education.

Liberty University School of Music Upcoming Events

Jazz Combos

*Center for Music and the Worship Arts
Instrumental Room (M160) Thu, April 17, 7:30 PM*

*Wind Symphony

*Center for Music and the Worship Arts
Concert Hall Tue, April 22, 7:30 PM*

*Commercial Music Showcase

*Center for Music and the Worship Arts
Concert Hall Thu, April 24, 7:30 PM*

Worship on the Lawn

SOM Steps and Lawn

With E41 and Vessel

*LU Symphony Orchestra & Choirs

*Center for Music and the Worship Arts
Concert Hall Tue, April 29, 7:30 PM*

Jubilate Deo

***Ticketed Event. Tickets can be purchased at www.liberty.edu/tickets.**

We would like to thank the
Liberty University Administration for
their faithful support of the School of Music.

Dr. Dondi Costin, President
Dr. Scott Hicks, Provost and Chief Academic Officer
Dr. Stephen Müller, Dean, School of Music
The School of Music Administration, Faculty, and Staff

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