

A/Tonal Ensemble

Chad Sloan, baritone

Jessica Dorman, piano

Rob Simonds &

Paola Manrique-Land, violins

Jon Silpayamanant, cello

Charlotte Roth &

Sheri Davino, flutes

Carrie RavenStem, clarinet

Tanner Leonardo, percussion

GUEST ARTIST RECITAL
Monday, March 25, 2019
Comstock Concert Hall
8:00 p.m.

PROGRAM

Calm After the ____ (2018)

Tanner Leonardo
(b. 1996)

for percussion solo

Omwentelingen (Revolutions) (2014)

Joël Bons
(b. 1952)

2. Omhelzen (to hug/embrace)

1. Ravotten (to horse around)

for clarinet and cello

La Chasse (2019)

Andrew Herald

for chamber ensemble

I need you to listen (2018)

Lauren Smith
(b. 1999)

for chamber ensemble

Akron, OH (2019)

Zach Willman
(b. 1995)

for chamber ensemble

Lifeless Matter (2019)

Rachael Smith
(b. 1996)

for voice and chamber ensemble

Death by Water (2019)

Joshua Baerwald
(b. 1996)

for voice and chamber ensemble

WELCOME TO THE UNIVERSITY OF LOUISVILLE!

WE HOPE YOU ENJOY THE CONCERT THIS EVENING.

Smoking is not permitted in the School of Music building.

In the unlikely event of fire or other emergency, please walk to the nearest exit.

The use of recording devices and flash photography is strictly prohibited.

PLEASE SILENCE CELL PHONES & OTHER ELECTRONIC DEVICES.

Thank you.

PROGRAM NOTES

Tanner Leonardo – Calm After the _____ (2019)

This piece represents the typical phrase “Calm After the Storm”. In this instance, the word Storm has been removed to represent the many different forms a storm may appear. One must both love and fear the calm after a storm because this “calm” is placed conveniently before the next storm to come. The work is presented in three distinct sections. The first, being representative of the storm, the second demonstrating the serenity and calm, while the third foreshadows the impending next storm to come. This composition also provides a spectral exploration on the effects of nonstandard implements and instruments for the percussion medium.

Andrew Herald – La Chasse (2019)

La Chasse is a musical representation of a classic action movie chase scene. The piece hits the ground running with quick “fiddle”-style figures in the strings, and the chase is on. Near the middle, it feels as though the danger might be gone. This feeling, naturally, doesn’t last long, and the chase continues at full speed until the piece ends raucously, leaving the listener unsure whether the chase ended well for the hunter or for the hunted.

Zach Willman – Akron, OH (2019)

Akron, OH was written in Louisville, Kentucky, for the A/Tonal Ensemble. It is a repetitive and energetic piece. There are times when the whole ensemble will begin repeating the same few notes, imitating the sound of a CD player skipping. The ensemble works to break through these moments of getting stuck together, but the skipping becomes more complicated throughout, as different instruments get stuck at different rates.

Lauren Smith – I need you to listen (2018)

I need you to listen is about finding your voice in the aftermath of trauma. The violin represents the voice of the victim, who is attempting to find their voice and stability. The ensemble functions to contradict or support the violin and participate in the journey. The title addresses the listener; the voice needs you to listen to their story.

Rachael Smith – Lifeless Matter (2019)

Lifeless Matter explores the character flaws of Dr. Victor Frankenstein from Mary Shelley's novel *Frankenstein*. In his arrogance and ignorance he animates lifeless matter, creating new life. When the "monster" he created and society turn on him, Victor condemns them while criticizing the very same flaws that cause his own downfall. Through juxtaposition of music and text my goal was to reflect the dichotomy of the ambition to seek knowledge with the disdain towards those who seek it from a place of pride.

Text from *Frankenstein* by Mary Shelley

"I succeeded in discovering the cause of generation and life; I became myself capable of bestowing animation upon lifeless matter."

"Man," I cried, "how ignorant art thou in thy pride of wisdom!"

Joshua Baerwald – Death by Water (2019)

Eliot's poem "The Waste Land" contains five sections. The majority of the text in this piece comes from the fourth section, Death by Water. The poem's use of juxtaposition and quotation informs my piece in two ways: the first being that this work contains its own group of allusions and quotations (including Schoenberg, Schumann, and Brecht). The second being that the singer inhabits two contrasting characters: the first character is akin to a siren, trying to lure the audience in. The second character seems as though they are the actual singer, shifting between a matter-of-fact tone and a sort of neuroses, trying to get their own warnings out as the piece goes on. As both an homage to A/Tonal - the ensemble that has helped brought this piece to life - and as an important part of the piece, each player plays their initials in morse code along with various distress signals such as SOS - for those of you who know morse code, see if you can hear them!

Text:

*Here, said she,**

Is your card

Sweet Thames, run softly till I end my song

Fear Death by Water

Phlebas the Phoenician, a fortnight dead,

Forgot the cry of gulls, and the deep sea swell

Da rase draussen Fluth bis auf zum Rand

And the profit and loss.

A current under sea
Picked his bones in whispers (whispers).
Stay with me dry bones can harm no one
As he rose and fell
He passed the stages of his age and youth
I hear the rattle
Entering the whirlpool.

Gentile or Jew
Mon semblable
O you alive or not who look to windward,
Clutch and sink into the wet bank
Consider Phlebas, hear the rattle.
Who was once handsome and tall as you.
Und darin wird er untergehen
Gentile alive or not? Jew
He who was living is now dead
Oh you who turn the wheel *we who are living are now dying*
turn the wheel to look windward
Als ihr bleicher Leib im Wasser verfaulet war
Consider *turn in the door once Phlebas and turn once only who*
Turn the wheel, turn the wheel, turn
Consider Phlebas, Phlebas, who was once handsome and tall as you
Sweet Thames, Fear death by water.

* Words in italics signify text that has been excerpted from other sources outside of “Death by Water.”

ARTIST BIOGRAPHIES

A/Tonal was founded by two Louisville composers and two performers in 2013 who were deeply passionate about playing music of the past and present. Composers Daniel Gilliam and Erich Stem along with performers Carrie RavenStem and Jessica Dorman set out to create a group that would bring a lively mix of music presented in such a way as to give Louisville audiences an experience they will never forget. The use of dynamic lighting on stage, audience members being encouraged to take pics or facetime live, the exploration of venues outside of the traditional chamber group setting, and the commissioning and recording of music by living and local composers are some of the efforts that have distinguished A/Tonal as a group that is “breaking new ground” (Insider Louisville).

Since its inception, A/Tonal has been featured on 90.5 WUOL's Unheard series, LONGLEASH's Loretto Project, and local venues such as The Kentucky Center and The Piano Shop. Its educational mission has resulted in several performances and masterclasses for The Kentucky Center Governor's School for the Arts (Centre College), Bellarmine University, and Indiana University Southeast.

Tanner Leonardo studied percussion under Dr. Greg Byrne at the University of Louisville. He received a degree in Music Performance with a focus in percussion in the Spring of 2018. Previously, Leonardo has served as Section Principal in the University of Louisville Wind Symphony and Symphony Orchestra. Other performing ensembles he has achieved include the Commonwealth Brass Band, Louisville Philharmonia, Orchestra Enigmatic, Music City Drum & Bugle Corps, Walden Theater Opera Co., and the Kentucky Intercollegiate Band. He has performed within ensembles at both the World Association of Symphonic Bands & Ensembles Conference in San Jose, California and the Sandy Feldstein Percussion Festival in Indianapolis, Indiana. Leonardo also currently serves as the Head Percussion Instructor at North Oldham High School in Goshen, Kentucky and Grayson County High School in Leitchfield, Kentucky, having individual students place in All District and All State Ensembles. With this, multiple groups under his direction have received distinguished and first-place accolades within different events. Leonardo also is an Educational Endorser of Salyers Percussion, which will support his efforts to conduct the KMEA District 5 All-District Percussion Ensemble.

Joël Bons, a music composition professor at the Conservatory of Amsterdam, learned about world music as a child by listening to his parents' record collection. In 1980, he co-founded the contemporary music group Nieuw Ensemble, which earned the Prince Bernhard Fund Music Prize in 1998 for "markedly lively and adventurous" programming. He founded Atlas Ensemble in 2002 and continues to serve as its artistic director, winning the Amsterdam Prize for the Arts in 2005. In 2009, he started Atlas Academy/Lab, a laboratory for the creation of intercultural music. His pieces have been performed by ensembles and orchestras in Europe, China and Canada. He is the 2019 recipient of the 2019 University of Louisville Grawemeyer Award for Music Composition for "Nomaden," a one-hour work for cello solo and an ensemble of instruments from diverse cultures.

Andrew Herald has been composing music since he was ten years old, when he would write simple tunes on the piano. In high school, he began to explore composing for larger and varying ensembles, and he continues this today at UofL, where he has studied with Dr. Marc Satterwhite and Dr. Steve Rouse. Throughout his compositional history, his music has consistently been a blend of contemporary and classical styles. Andrew aspires to work as a composer in the film/television business.

Zach Willman (b. 1995) is a senior composition major at U of L. He is earning his Bachelor's of Music in Music Composition and a minor in Music and New Media. He studies privately with Dr. Satterwhite and his biggest interests are improvisation, choral music, and sound design.

Lauren M. Smith (b. 1999) is a composer from Louisville, KY. She is interested in chamber music, theatre, and opera. She is interested in the musical nature of language, cross-discipline collaboration, and storytelling with a focus on women's voices, trauma, and violence against women. She began her classical studies in high school first with violin, then later taking composition lessons. She is currently pursuing her B.M. in Music Composition at the University of Louisville. She has studied with Marc Satterwhite, John Ritz, Steve Rouse, and Lauren Spavelko, and has had lessons with Bent Sørensen and Amy Williams.

Rachael Smith (b.1996) is a composer from Brockport, NY. She has written a number of pieces ranging from solo instrument concert works and chamber ensemble pieces to musical theatre stand alones and full musicals. Along with being a composer Rachael is also a playwright, librettist, and lyricist, having written the book, music, and lyrics for five individual musicals since 2013. Her musical *Dollhouse*, for which she did the music, lyrics, and book for, was selected as a presentation for the State University of New York Undergraduate Research Conference in 2016 and performed by the Performing Arts Company (PAC) at the State University of New York at Fredonia. Other musicals she has written include *American Spooky Show*, *Circus of Dreams*, and *Piano Man*.

Rachael is a member of ASCAP and Society of Composer's, Inc. She received her Bachelor's in Music Composition at the State University of New York at Fredonia where she studied with Dr. Andrew Martin Smith and Dr. Rob Deemer and is currently pursuing a MM in Composition at the University of Louisville with Dr. Steve Rouse.

Joshua Baerwald is a composer/cellist from Milwaukee, Wisconsin who strives to use his art in a variety of ways. As a cellist, he has performed in a variety of ensembles, including the Milwaukee Youth Symphony Orchestra, two orchestras at Florida State University, the American Modern Orchestra, and UofL's New Music Ensemble.

Joshua has been the recipient of numerous awards, including the Tallahassee Music Guild Scholarship, the Bess H. Ward Scholarship through the Florida State University Honors College, and a Virginia Center for the Creative Arts Residency. He has participated in summer festivals such as the Wintergreen Music Festival and the Mostly Modern Festival. Josh was also a finalist in the 2018 ASCAP Foundation Morton Gould Young Composer Awards.

In addition to his roles as an artist and musician, Joshua has been active as a member of his community, helping develop leadership retreats, facilitate programs, and function as a member of various panels on current social issues. Joshua received his B.M. in Music Composition at Florida State University, studying with Clifton Callender and privately with Daron Hagen. He is currently pursuing his M.M. in Music Composition at the University of Louisville as a Moritz von Bomhard Fellow under Steve Rouse.

UPCOMING EVENTS

All events are held at the School of Music on the University of Louisville Belknap Campus and are free and open to the public, unless otherwise noted.

Events are subject to change.

Tuesday, March 26, 2019

7pm - Student Recital: Sideshow Brass
Bird Recital Hall

Wednesday, March 27, 2019

7pm - University Violin & Viola Studio Recital
Bird Recital Hall

Thursday, March 28, 2019

7pm - University Cello Studio Recital
Bird Recital Hall

Thursday, March 28, 2019

8pm - University Student Composers Recital
Comstock Concert Hall

Thursday, March 28, 2019

8:30pm - University Double Bass Studio Recital
Bird Recital Hall

Monday, April 1, 2019

7pm - University Faculty Jazz Ensemble
Bird Recital Hall

Tuesday, April 2, 2019

7pm - University Piano Studio Recital
Bird Recital Hall

Thursday, April 4, 2019

8pm - University Jazz Lab Ensemble
Comstock Concert Hall

Saturday, April 6, 2019

8pm - Jazz-4-Kids: Carmen Bradford
Comstock Concert Hall

Tickets: \$55



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