

FORBES CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

JAMES MADISON UNIVERSITY®

School of Music

presents the

JMU Wind Symphony

CBDNA Send-Off Concert

Dr. Christopher M. Cicconi, *director*

Wednesday, February 18, 2026

7:30 pm

Concert Hall



There will be no intermission

Program

Dionysiaques for Band, Opus 62, No.1 (1913)

Florent Schmitt
(1870-1958)

Moth (2013)

Viet Cuong
(b.1990)

Windows and Mirrors (2024)

Brian Balmages
(b. 1975)

- I. Common Thread
- II. Reflection of the Dark
- III. Window to the Soul
- IV. Finale

Patrons are reminded to turn off all pagers, cell phones, personal computers, and any other electronic devices.

The unauthorized videotaping or any other recording of this production is strictly prohibited in adherence with Federal copyright laws.

JMU Wind Symphony Personnel

Dr. Christopher Cicconi, *Director*

FLUTE

Vanessa Britton
Michael Discenza
Emma Lisson*
Isabelle Pearson#

OBOE

Mark Guillen-Maluquish
Cady Litteral
Lynette Salins*

EB CLARINET

Kelsey Davis

CLARINET

Valerie Alvarado
Jona Benson
Rob Christianson
Ian Graff
Clara Jacob
Geneva Maldonado*#
Grace Trembl

BASS CLARINET

Emerson Garmendia-
Arevalo
Cami Holmes

CONTRABASS

CLARINET

Preston Davis

BASSOON

Charlie Address
Hannah Gerick
David Kang*

ALTO SAXOPHONE

Connor Dunford
Tyler Huffstetler
Tyrique Payne*

TENOR SAXOPHONE

Adam Army

BARITONE

SAXOPHONE

Sean Wyatt

TRUMPET

Liam Meadows
Ryan Johnson
Taylor Lowry
Jocelyn Moyer
Micah Wingfield
Allie Woodbury*#

HORN

Alexander Childs
Joshua Short
Chloe Starling
Will Rapp
Jacob Taylor*

TROMBONE

Nikhil Argade
CJ Brown
Quin Robinson
Jack Waters*

BASS TROMBONE

Gavin Torrence

EUPHONIUM

Hannah Caraker*#
Jennifer Carden#

TUBA

Marluce Gardner
Anders Helvey*
Henry Taylor

DOUBLE BASS

Jack Choi

PIANO/CELESTE

Chyh Leng Low#

PERCUSSION

Radley Hofmann
Zane Johnson
Aiden Koeler
Brian McDermott*#
Olivia Miller
Lizbeth Stephan#
Emily Stevens

GRADUATE ASSISTANTS

Katie Berlin
Hannah Caraker
Joshua Holsinger

**denotes principle player*

#denotes graduate student

Program Notes

Dionysiaques for Band, Opus 62, No. 1 **Florent Schmitt (1870-1958)**

Dionysiaques was composed for the 100-member Garde Républicaine Band in Paris in 1913, mere months after Schmitt attended the premiere performance of Stravinsky's *Rite of Spring*. Its own premiere had to wait until 1925 because of World War I but it has been performed frequently since the mid-20th century and it now stands as one of the cornerstone pieces of the early wind band repertoire.

The title comes from the "Dyonisia" – ancient Greek celebrations honoring Dionysus, the god of wine. He was thought to have provided man with the vineyard, and subsequently the harvest, winemaking, drunkenness and the means for mystical trances.

The piece itself begins ominously as the low brass and woodwinds set the stage for an exotic and almost hypnotic journey. Schmitt's impressionistic tendencies are immediately evident: wandering melodies emerge in the woodwinds and gradually gain momentum. Their fluidity is slowly abandoned in favor of festivity, perhaps encouraged by the 'fluid' of Dionysus, be it red or white. The bacchanal eventually bursts forth, brimming with rhythmic vitality and a relentless insistence on partying all the way to the verge of control, and perhaps a bit beyond.

- Program Note by Cynthia Johnston Turner

Moth

Viet Cuong (b. 1990)

The "moth to the flame" narrative is a familiar one. We have all seen moths in the glow of flames or stadium lights. Scientists call this phenomenon "phototaxis," but I prefer to think of this attraction in much more romantic terms. The dusty moth, though destined to live in shadow, has an insatiable craving for the brightness of day. Drab, but elegant, nervous, but swift, his taste for the glow of the flame or the filament is dire. Perhaps he dances in the light because it holds the promise that he might be as beautiful as his favored kin, the butterfly. For only there, in its ecstatic warmth, may he spend the last of his fleeting life, and believe himself to be.

Moth seeks inspiration from the dualities between light and dark, beautiful and grotesque, reality and fantasy, and the ultimate decision to sacrifice sensibility for grace.

Program Notes - *continued*

Thank you to the members of the Brooklyn Wind Symphony and their Artistic Director, Jeff Ball, for trusting me to write a piece for their momentous 2013 Midwest Clinic performance. I have nothing but gratitude and respect for their dedication to the music, and for their commitment to sharing the wind repertoire with the New York City community. The Brooklyn Wind Symphony's ability to flourish outside of an institution is, in a word, extraordinary.

- *Program Note by Composer*

Windows and Mirrors

Brian Balmages (b. 1975)

Windows. A way for us to look at others while having a barrier between us, allowing us to judge freely without being in the same space.

Mirrors. A way for us to look at ourselves, also providing a barrier, but rarely does that allow us to judge ourselves freely.

Amidst so much turmoil throughout the world, it seemed that these two ideas could come together to form a challenging yet compelling look at the very essence of our humanity. Thus, *Windows and Mirrors* became the title of my first symphony for band.

Movement 1, *Common Thread*, is a reminder that we all share much more than what divides us. The movement takes the listener through a range of styles and emotions, once again referring to the unique development of different ideas, yet reminding us that everything was born from the same spark of an idea.

The second movement, *Reflection of the Dark*, explores hate, conspiracy theories, protests, vitriol, violence — I wanted to create a space where we are forced to confront these forces and, honestly, feel a bit uncomfortable at times. This movement explores that space where no one listens to each other and everyone is yelling and accusing without taking even a moment to consider where the other humans, who have the same origin story as we do, are coming from.

The third movement, *Window to the Soul*, draws inspiration from Gounod's *Ave Maria*. After so much rage, I wanted to explore the depths of our own being and what it means to truly be alive. This movement has no "huge" climactic moment as I wanted the music to feel more inward and personal.

The final movement, *Finale*, takes that title for two reasons. Yes, it reaches back through the entire work, drawing on themes, motives and a host of other

Program Notes - *continued*

musical elements; but it also asks us to consider the other shared element of our humanity -- the "finale" of our lives, and in that moment, what we truly treasure: the relationships we value; the separation of material needs and the focus on more. And in the final moments, my hope is that everyone -- performers and audience members -- stop for a moment and think about what it really means to be human and how we may be able to share that humanity with others.

I believe that music can bring beauty into a world that so desperately needs it. I believe that music can also draw attention to what is wrong with the world, and that it can help us heal. I believe that music can recenter us, guide us, and bring us together. It is with all of this in mind that I offer my first symphony for band - *Windows and Mirrors*.

- *Program Note by Composer*

Woodwind, Brass, & Percussion Faculty

Beth Chandler Cahill	Flute
Jeanette Zyko.....	Oboe
Šarūnas Jankauskas	Clarinet
Sue Barber	Bassoon
David Pope	Saxophone
Chris Carrillo	Trumpet
John Abbracciamento	Trumpet
Ian Zook	Horn
Andrew Lankford	Trombone
Kevin J. Stees	Euphonium/Tuba
Daisey Kludt	Euphonium/Tuba
Casey Cangelosi	Percussion
Aaron Trumbore	Percussion

JMU Band Program Personnel

Chris Cicconi	Director of Bands
Scott D. Ridders	Director of Marching Royal Dukes/ Associate Director of Bands
Chris DeVona	Assistant Director of Bands/ Director of Pep Band
Amy Birdsong.....	Lecturer
Kirk Weaver	Administrative Assistant
Katie Berlin.....	Graduate Assistant
Hannah Caraker.....	Graduate Assistant
Josh Holsinger.....	Graduate Assistant
Josh Sheppard	Graduate Assistant

School of Music Staff

Dr. John Allemeier	Director, School of Music
Dr. John Peterson	Associate Director, School of Music
Dr. William Dabback	Director of Graduate Studies
Daisey Kludt	Administrative Assistant
Sarah Macomber	Operations Coordinator
Kimberley Velazquez	Executive Assistant
Donna Wampler	Program Support Specialist

Friends of the Arts and Design

Thanks to our generous Friends of the Arts and Design scholarship donors whose support allows our students to continue to create, perform, and inspire.

Arts and Design Hero (\$5,000+)

James McHone Jewelry • Ann & Mark Siciliano

Arts and Design Champion (\$1,500 - \$4,999)

Rubén Graciani & Matt Pardo • Hotel Madison • George and Marilou Johnson

Kathy Moran Wealth Group • Mack & Towana Moore • Shannon Tierney

Arts and Design Advocate (\$500 - \$1,499)

John Allemeier • Beth Chandler Cahill & Jim Cahill • Nancy Davis •

Matthew Duffy & Christine Jimenez-Duffy • Energy Windows LLC

Jonathan Fox • Quillon Hall & Karin Tollefson-Hall •

Holly Haney & Bob Kolvoord • Charles Ma & Sumei Wang •

Matchbox Realty • Barbara & William Mayo • Ron Pugh •

Scott & Wren Stevens • Debbie & Greg St. Ours •

Matthew & Sarah Von Schuch

Arts and Design Ally (\$250 - \$499)

Paul Ackerman & Weldon Bagwell • Elizabeth Alspaugh •

Jerry Benson & Martha Ross • Stephen Bolstad & Stephanie Wasta •

Robert & Suzanne Bothamley • Jared & Jenny Burden •

David & Jennifer Campfield • Jennifer Copeland • Myron Dickerson

Len & Miriam Discenza • Rhonda Dolan • Hillary Ellis

Joe & Rose Estock • Bob & Linda Failes • Johnny & Phyllis Garber •

John Keightley & Tammy Mannarino • Brenda & Ronald Krablin • JoAnn & Ric
Leobold • Kristi Lewis • Kathryn & Michael Loy • Brock Materson • Tom McKenzie

• Jamie & Tim Miller • Rebekah Noonan • Sharon Shewbridge • Barbara Shifflett •

Nick Swartz • Kristee Jo Trumbo • Cecelia Wolf • Melinda Wood

Marlon Foster Scholarship

How you can make a difference!

Dear Patron,

Thank you for attending this School of Music performance, we appreciate your support! The QR code below will take you to a page where you can donate to the Marlon Foster Scholarship. Marlon Foster ('82, '95) served in the United States Air Force, taught in Harrisonburg City Public Schools for 26 years, and taught percussion in the JMU School of Music. Marlon was awarded Teacher of the Year from Harrisonburg City Public Schools, and he was inducted into the Virginia Band and Orchestra Directors Association's Hall of Fame.

