

Fall 2023 Music Tour

Wind Symphony

of Concordia University Chicago

Conducted by Dr. Richard R. Fischer

The Fred and Jane Wittlinger Endowed Chair in Music Performance



welcome!

Measurement. We like to use numbers as a form of measurement. For example, in our current full-time music faculty, we have over 115 collective years of teaching experience at Concordia University Chicago alone; with many thanks for Dr. Richard Fischer's 50th year of service. These numbers are impressive, but do they give us the full effect of our work?

When it comes to music, we rely on the structure of the pitches, rhythms and harmony within each measure, phrase, movement; the certainty of its beginning and end. Without some

form of measured notation, the composer's intent could never be performed or recreated.

The music comes alive when the measured notation comes off the page. It's that initial spark of life at the beginning of the concert—generated by God's gift of the breath—and the subsequent breaths that sustain the music for the duration. We rely on committed musicians to accomplish this artistic performance at the deepest level possible.

Tours are one of our students' most-telling measurements of success at Concordia University Chicago.

You get to witness our students in the Wind Symphony performing soul-stirring music. You also get to witness WHY they perform. With Christ at the center, extraordinary things happen in the music. The end result is immeasurable!

We are grateful that you are here to share this concert with us. May this evening's performance be a blessing to you.



Sincerely in Christ,
CHARLES P. BROWN
Chair, Arts Division,
Music Program Lead

YOUR SUPPORT IS APPRECIATED!



Scan QR Code and donate to CUC's Wind Symphony program.

Your support contributes to an exceptional experience for CUC's current and future music students, including help with enabling our ensemble groups to travel nationally and internationally to share their musical gifts with the world to the glory of God. For this we are forever grateful and whole-heartedly thank you for your donation.

LISTEN LIVE! CUCHICAGO.EDU/LIVE

October 27
Wind Symphony
Home Concert
8 p.m., Chapel

October 29
Kapelle Home Concert
4 p.m., Chapel

November 4-6
Chamber Orchestra
Fall Tour

December 2
Service of Lessons
and Carols
4 & 7 p.m., Chapel

December 3
Service of Lessons
and Carols
4 p.m., Chapel

December 8
University Band
Christmas Concert
8 p.m., Chapel

March 1-10
Wind Symphony
Spring Tour

March 1-10
Kapelle Spring Tour

March 15
Wind Symphony
Home Concert
8 p.m., Chapel

March 17
Kapelle Home Concert
4 p.m., Chapel

March 22
University Band
Concert
8 p.m., Chapel

April 14
Chamber Orchestra
Concert
7 p.m., Chapel

April 28
Spring Music Festival
7 p.m., Geiseman
Auditorium

June 29
University Band
Patriotic Pops
Concert
6:30 p.m., Addison
Pillars Lawn

For a complete listing of concerts at Concordia-Chicago, including those that will be live-streamed, please visit CUChicago.edu/music. If you would like to receive emails about all upcoming concerts, send your request to music@CUChicago.edu. If you would like to catch another performance of this evening's program, watch our home concert live on the web on October 27 at 8 p.m. CDT. You may view more musical events, either live or on demand, at CUChicago.edu/live.

PRAISE GOD, ALL CREATURES SAMUEL MARQUART

I composed *Praise God, All Creatures* as a celebratory piece honoring Dr. Fischer’s 50 years of dedicated, heartfelt work at Concordia University Chicago. Through his inspiring music ministry, “Doc” has blessed me and countless individuals.

This piece not only serves to celebrate Dr. Fischer’s jubilee year, but also reflects the most special moments in my life while in Wind Symphony. While the opening fanfare is meant to reflect my very first performance as a new trumpet player in the Wind Symphony, it is inspired also through the tradition of the Year of Jubilee. From Leviticus 25: “Then you shall sound the loud trumpet on the tenth day of the seventh month. On the Day of Atonement you shall sound the trumpet throughout all your land. And you shall consecrate the fiftieth year, and proclaim liberty throughout the land to all its inhabitants.” This proclamation is not just about any liberty, this is liberty that comes from God. For us today, this liberty is the gift of salvation through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. The Doxology is stated multiple times throughout the piece, through heavy brass and even through soft woodwinds, to

reflect the constant state of praise and thankfulness to our Lord for this incredible gift. God continues to provide through servants like Doc who gave me the Wind Symphony experience. For many people, this goes beyond the music. It is an experience that provides great discipline and focus—a beautiful way to express God’s love, discover lifelong friendships and even fiancées. I met my future wife, who plays flute, in Wind Symphony (and Doc is a huge supporter!). This is reflected near the end of the piece when only one flute and one trumpet are playing in unison, the final phrase of the Doxology: “Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.” Like the end of every concert, there is always a surprise for the audience. Without totally ruining that surprise, I will say that after every concert we meet up in a circle as a group, pray, and continue to praise God with the Doxology. Speaking for myself and many others, thank you...you, Doc, for demonstrating your incredible God-given gifts, sharing your heart, for being a tremendous inspiration, and for these last 50 years.

Samuel Marquart



“I composed *Praise God, All Creatures* as a celebratory piece honoring Dr. Fischer’s 50 years of dedicated, heartfelt work at Concordia University Chicago.”

- Samuel Marquart

WAYFARING STRANGER CHRISTOPHER NELSON

Wayfaring Stranger is a setting of the American folk spiritual known as *Poor Wayfaring Stranger*. While many versions of the lyrics to this tune exist, they all tell the story of a traveler who makes their way on a journey despite a rough road, difficult circumstances and gathering darkness. He does this, the lyrics say, for the promise of green pastures and a reunion with his father and mother at journey’s end. This setting is intended to convey not only the difficulty experienced by the traveler, but also the resolve which is displayed as he moves forward despite hardship and disappointment. *Wayfaring Stranger* is offered as a sort of resolute battle-hymn for anyone who must endure a long journey

of challenge and trial before the promised green pastures can be enjoyed.

Christopher M. Nelson is an educator, composer, arranger and percussionist. Currently, he serves as the Director of Bands at Timpangos High School in Orem, UT. Chris has performed with the Utah Premiere Brass and has recorded for the international television station BYU TV. He holds a Master of Arts in music performance with a conducting emphasis from Washington State University and a Bachelor of Music in instrumental music education from Brigham Young University in Provo, UT.

From the publisher’s program notes

SAILING WITH WHALES ROSSANO GALANTE

As *Sailing with Whales* begins, a trumpet fanfare accompanies the men and women who leave port and set out to sea on a crisp morning to search for the majestic orca whale. The main theme, started by the trombones, follows them on their journey with these apex predators that no other animal would dare to prey on. This theme encompasses the thrilling search and, once found, subsequent trek with the whales in their natural habitat.

The noble and majestic secondary theme captures a quieter time on the ocean as these highly social whales travel in pods to calmer waters as the sun begins to set.

The next day, as the waves swell and the sailors try to keep up with the whales, the pace of the music accelerates to embody the speed of these ocean giants as they begin to move faster and faster. After a brief recapitulation of the main thematic material, the piece comes to a riveting, rhythmic conclusion, encapsulating the experience of *Sailing with Whales*!

Rossano Galante



DANZAS CUBANAS ROBERT SHELDON

Danzas Cubanas is a set of three original dance-like movements celebrating the joy and energy of Afro-Cuban music and people of this island nation. The closing dance is a fast-paced mambo. An excellent multi-cultural music experience, the three interconnected dances feature solos for piano, trombone, flute and trumpet.

Robert Sheldon

SHALOM DAN FORREST

As a choral work, *Shalom* alternates between sections of very simple melody floating over gentle accompaniment, setting the Biblical words of comfort and peace, with polyphonic refrains that feature the Hebrew word shalom (meaning “peace”) weaving in and out between voices. No matter how complex the texture gets, it always returns to a single unison note, picturing the meaning of shalom: not merely a surface-level peace, but wholeness in every aspect of one’s being (physically, mentally, emotionally and spiritually) and in all our relationships with each other.

Transcribing the work for wind band provided much more opportunity for timbre and texture than the original choral version. I wish deep peace – shalom – to the musicians who bring this work to their audiences.

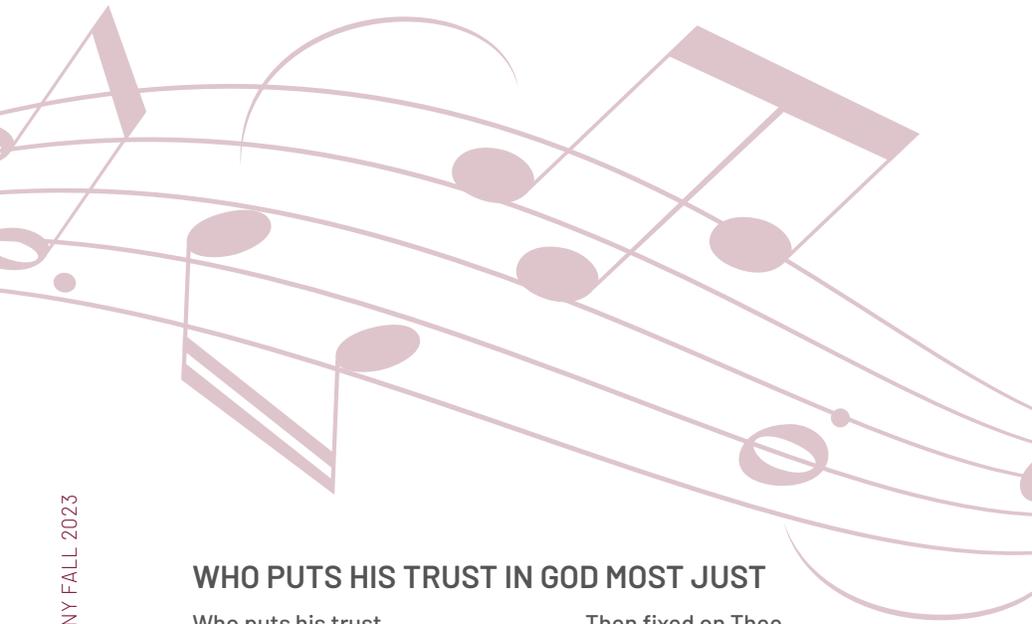
Dan Forrest

program notes

FLYING JEWELS JAMES M. DAVID

Flying Jewels is a symphonic poem for wind ensemble that attempts to capture the joyful and hopeful spirit of a famous essay by the late author Brian Doyle. The title refers to how Europeans described hummingbirds when first encountering them in North America. Doyle's essay muses on how intensely and passionately these tiny birds live their lives, with their hearts beating 10 times a second. He also considers the blue whale's giant heart, which beats as little as eight times per minute, and can be heard from miles away. Ultimately, the essay asserts the connection that all people and all creatures share: we all have one heart that carries us through life's struggles, victories and simple pleasures. My composition deals with the themes of Doyle's essay by depicting the heart rhythms of different creatures through various metric/tempo modulations and relationships. First is the hummingbird, flitting about with bright flourishes from the woodwinds and metallic percussion at superhuman speeds. A reptile's three-chambered heart is heard next with nods to the triple-meter dances of the Caribbean. At the center of the work is the human heart, which is a simple tune that slowly builds to a cadence at the heart rate of a blue whale: four giant chords that resound under the ocean depths. Finally, the work recapitulates each idea while gaining speed to combine all of the tempi in an exuberant and ecstatic finale. This work was commissioned by the United States Air Force Band, Col. Don Schofield, commander and conductor.

James M. David



WHO PUTS HIS TRUST IN GOD MOST JUST

Who puts his trust
In God most just
Hath built his house securely;
He who relies
On Jesus Christ,
Shall reach His heav'n most surely.

Then fixed on Thee
My trust shall be,
For Thy truth cannot alter;
While mine Thou art
Nor death's worst smart
Shall make my courage falter.

Joachim Magdeburg

ALMA MATER

PAUL MANZ, '41

Hail to thee, our Alma Mater!
Hail to thee, Maroon and Gold!
Here we stand, thy sons and daughters,
Thinking back to days of old—
Days of joy and happy meetings,
Days of friendship and of love.
As we stand before thy Pillars,
Hail, Concordia! Hail!





Wind Symphony

The Concordia University Chicago Wind Symphony has performed in 43 states, Canada, Europe, Asia and South Africa, and enjoys an unparalleled reputation among small liberal arts institutions. Since the Wind Symphony began touring internationally, they have performed concerts in Germany, the Czech Republic, Poland, Hungary and Slovakia. In May 2005, 2009 and 2013, the ensemble performed concerts in 10 cities in China, including Shanghai and Beijing. In May 2017, the Wind Symphony toured South Africa where they performed Johan de Meij's African Harmony, commissioned by the group especially for their tour. Additionally, the Wind Symphony has played major concerts at Carnegie Hall, Chicago's Symphony Center, the Meyerson Center in Dallas, the Weidner Center at University of Wisconsin-Green Bay, Uihlein Hall at the Marcus Center in Milwaukee, the Saginaw Civic Center, and the Lied Center for Performing Arts in Lincoln, NE.

The Wind Symphony has commissioned and premiered numerous wind compositions and produced 16 acclaimed recordings of sacred wind repertoire. These recordings have been played on National Public Radio; WFMT-FM, the classical station in Chicago; The Lutheran Hour; almost daily on the Moody Bible Network in 40 cities throughout the United States; and streaming on Spotify. They performed to multiple standing ovations as the showcase ensemble at the New York City Wind Band Festival at Carnegie Hall in 2014 and 2019.

If you would like the Wind Symphony to perform at your church on an upcoming tour, please contact tour manager Rachel Leininger at Rachel.Leininger@CUChicago.edu or 708-209-3524.



Music CDs
available for
purchase!

Scan the QR code for a link
to CUC's list of recordings.

CUChicago.edu/recordings

wind symphony members

+ Denotes Section Chair



Flute
Melanie
Goman
Chicago, IL
Secondary Education,
English; Music minor



Flute
Shanell
Jackson
Houston, TX
Director of Christian
Education, LTE



Flute/Piccolo
Kierra
Mohalley
Racine, WI
K-12 Art & Spanish
Education



Flute/Piccolo+
Joezell Mariz
Orbon
Franklin Park, IL
Psychology;
Music minor



Flute
Lydia
Smith
Dyer, IN
Secondary Education,
English LTE



Oboe/English Horn
Meg
Busse
Lombard, IL



Oboe+
Anna
Kuschel
St. Louis, MO
Journalism



Clarinet
Noah
Hartwig
Iowa City, IA
Pre-Seminary



Clarinet
Mike
Kahles
Elmhurst, IL



Clarinet
Sarah
Redhage
Lowden, IA
Undecided



Clarinet+
Alec
Sanavongsay
Fort Wayne, IN
Music, Pre-Seminary



Clarinet
Micheala
Tuminello
Oak Park, IL



Clarinet
Benjamin
Verswijver
Houston, TX
Music Education -
Instrumental



Bass Clarinet
Ruth
Eatherton
Sheboygan, WI
Elementary
Education, LTE



Bass/Contrabass Clarinet
Jacob
Kimble
Chicago, IL
History, Political
Science



Alto/Soprano Saxophone+
Josiah
Gerlach
Watertown, WI
Music Education, LTE



Alto Saxophone
Cody
Stocker
River Forest, IL



Tenor Sax
Anthony
Pullano
Park Ridge, IL
Political Science



Baritone Sax
Anthony
Fasso
Lyons, IL



French Horn
Emily
Cherington
Houston, TX
Secondary Education,
LTE



French Horn
Owen
Kaiser
Fort Wayne, IN
Music, Director of
Parish Music



French Horn
Elijah
Kohlmeier
Wauwatosa, WI
English, Pre-Seminary



French Horn+
Karolina
Zawitkowska
Wood Dale, IL
Music Education



Trumpet
Diego
Castaneda
Durango, Mexico
Liberal Arts



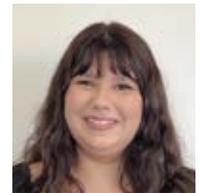
Trumpet
Nathan
Goman
Chicago, IL
Undeclared



Trumpet
Isabelle
Hefe
Manchester, MO
K-12 Spanish
Education, LTE



Trumpet
Andrew
Kuhnau
Watertown, MN
Music Education, LTE



Trumpet
Juliette
Lawson
Fort Myers, FL
Pre-Pharmacy



Trumpet
Christian
Salemink
St. Louis, MO
Christian Ministries



Trumpet+
Nicholas
Vukalovich
Rockford, IL
Theology



Trombone+
Daniel Patrick
Johnson
Maywood, IL
Music



Trombone
Noah
Clark
St. Louis, MO
English



Bass Trombone
Natasha
Dalley
Rochester, MN
Spanish



Euphonium+
Nathan
Stringer
Milwaukee, WI
Biology



Euphonium
Emma
Milam
Slinger, WI
English



Euphonium
Simeon
Roberts

Grand Rapids, MI
Secondary Education,
History, LTE



Tuba
August
Hoover

Fort Wayne, IN
Director of Christian
Education



Tuba
Ezekiel
Pearson

Vassar, MI
Secondary Ed- Social
Studies, LTE



Tuba+
Nathaniel
Schmidt

Sunbury, OH
Music Education, LTE



Tuba
Isaiah
Tietz

Fort Wayne, IN
Secondary Ed- English,
LTE



Piano/Percussion
Katie
Sievert

Greenfield, WI
Secondary Ed, English,
Language Arts, LTE



Percussion
Gabriel
Delgado Valentin

Xalostoc, Guerrero,
Mexico
Social Work



Percussion
Allison
Cross

Marion, IA
Deaconess Program



Percussion
Ben
Harrison

South Burlington, VT
Music



Percussion
Jordan
Holliday

Park Ridge, IL



Percussion+
Erika
Johnson

Waukesha, WI
Music Education, LTE



Percussion/Guitar/Bass
Collin
Pease

Elmwood Park, IL
Music Education

Band Staff:

Erika Johnson
Anna Kuschel
Joel Orbon
Lydia Smith

**Student Tour
Manager:**

Nicholas Vukalovich

Devotion

Coordinator:
Daniel Johnson

Social Committee:

Kierra Mohalley
Karolina Zawitkowska

music department faculty and staff

FULL-TIME FACULTY

Maurice Boyer, DMA
University of Maryland
College Park, MD

Charles P. Brown, DMA
University of Arizona
Tucson, AZ

Richard R. Fischer, DMA
Michigan State University
East Lansing, MI

Jonathan Stahlke, DMA
College-Conservatory of Music
Cincinnati, OH

Emily Woock, MME, MSM
Anderson University
Anderson, IN
University of Notre Dame
South Bend, IN

EMERITI FACULTY

Natalie Jenne, DMA
Stanford University
Palo Alto, CA

Evangeline Rimbach, PhD
Eastman School of Music
University of Rochester, NY

Steven Wente, DMus
Northwestern University
Evanston, IL

MUSIC TOUR MANAGER

Rachel Leininger, BA
Concordia University Chicago
River Forest, IL

ADJUNCT FACULTY

Mark Anderson, Cello
Alyssa Arrigo, Piano
Meg Busse, Oboe
Becky Coffman, Violin, Viola
Nathalie Colas, Voice
Robert Everson, Percussion
Cynthia Fudala, Flute
Paul Henry, Guitar
Kuang-Hao Huang, Piano
Jeffrey Kleinsorge, Piano Prep
Alex Laskey, Horn
Christopher Lorimer, Voice
Adrian Metzger, Piano Prep
Susan Nelson, Voice, Laudate
Chris O'Hara, Trumpet
Alex Piela, Jazz Band,
Jazz Improvisation
James Robinson-Parran, Piano
Jeremy Ruthrauff, Saxophone
Dianne Ryan, Bassoon
Nora Shaffer, Clarinet
Julie Spring, Harp
Thomas Stark, Trombone, Tuba,
Euphonium
Christine Steyer, Voice
Peter Stigdon, Männerchor
Katrina Sudman, Piano Prep
John Tuck, Bass
Renée Vogen, Horn

MISSION STATEMENT

The Music Department at Concordia University Chicago recognizes that music is a gift of God and a means through which all people can participate in the richness of the human experience. As a cultural expression that sheds light on both the individual and society, music is an essential component of a liberal arts education.

In accordance with these beliefs, the department fulfills the University mission by forming musicians who will be servant leaders and advocates for the transformative power of music in church, school and community. The department provides Concordia-Chicago students a variety of opportunities to study and perform music, enabling their lifelong growth and involvement in the arts, while enriching the larger community.



about the conductor



DR. RICHARD FISCHER, the Fred and Jane Wittlinger Endowed Chair for Music Performance, is in his

50th year as director of bands at Concordia University Chicago, River Forest, IL. Dr. Fischer conducts the Wind Symphony and University Band, and also teaches basic and advanced-level conducting courses. He holds the Bachelor of Music Education and Master of Music degrees from DePaul University, and the Doctor of Musical Arts degree from Michigan State University where he studied under Eugene Corporon.

Dr. Fischer and the Wind Symphony have performed concerts in almost every state in the United States and in Canada, Europe, Asia and South Africa. The Wind Symphony has had the honor of performing at many

music festivals and conferences including the College Band Directors National Association (CBDNA), the Illinois Music Educators Conference (ILMEA), and numerous times at convocations of the Lutheran Education Association (LEA). Having performed to multiple standing ovations at Carnegie Hall in 2014, the Wind Symphony was honored to again be invited to be the showcase ensemble for the New York City Wind Band Festival at Carnegie Hall in March 2019.

Under Dr. Fischer's direction, the Wind Symphony has commissioned, premiered and recorded numerous wind band compositions, most notably the U.S. premiere of Johan de Meij's *The Lord of the Rings* in the fall of 1989. They have recorded 16 compact discs (over 150 works) of sacred wind music. The Wind Symphony's most recent recording, *Let My Love Be Heard*, features both sacred and secular music.

Dr. Fischer is in frequent demand as a presenter, guest conductor,

clinician and adjudicator in the United States, Canada, South Africa, Japan and Australia. In 1994, he was named to the "A Team" of University Professors by the Chicago Tribune. Dr. Fischer has been honored to present and guest conduct at local universities in Nagoya, Japan every December for the past four years. Since 2004, he has conducted the LCMS National Youth Gathering Wind Symphony seven times. In May 2018, Dr. Fischer gave the keynote address at the national convention of the Association for Concert Bands held in Buffalo, NY.

Dr. Fischer's professional affiliations include the College Band Director National Association, World Association for Symphonic Bands and Ensembles, National Association for Music Educators, Illinois Music Educators Association, and the National Band Association. He and his wife Kathy (Kolb BA '77) reside in River Forest, IL, and have three grown children: Joy, Julie and Jonathan.

This year, Dr. Richard Fischer ("Doc") celebrates **50 years** of inspiring, dedicated, heartfelt work for Concordia University Chicago's esteemed Wind Symphony.



At Concordia University Chicago, music ensembles like the Wind Symphony, Kapelle and Chamber Orchestra are an important foundation of a formative student experience and our distinctive Lutheran identity. Your generous philanthropic gifts provide the fiscal agility that makes it possible to bring hope and joy through music to audiences on our campus and across the globe.



Your gifts ensure Concordia University Chicago has the funds necessary to provide scholarships, underwrite travel expenses, and continually strengthen the ministry our talented music faculty and students provide.



CONCORDIA
UNIVERSITY
CHICAGO

Christ at the Center

**Continue the Legacy of Music
with a Gift Today**

866-448-3867

Visit CUChicago.edu/GiveNow or Scan QR Code



**STAND
TALL FOR**

ASPIRATION.



Whether you want to pursue a professional career in music or grow your skills on a personal level, Concordia University Chicago's programs will support your aspirations and passion for music.

- 10 performance ensembles
- Close proximity to Chicago's vibrant music scene
- World-class faculty
- Updated practice facilities
- Scholarships for music & non-music majors



Learn more at
CUChicago.edu/music



**CONCORDIA
UNIVERSITY**
CHICAGO

Christ at the Center

THE WIND SYMPHONY FALL 2023 MUSIC TOUR CONCERTS

Fraser, MI

Friday, October 20 | 7p.m.

St. John Lutheran
Church & School
16339 E. 14 Mile Rd.
stjohnfraser.org

Tinley Park, IL

Sunday, October 22 | 4p.m.

Trinity Lutheran
Church & School
6850 W. 159th St.
tlcs.org

Fort Wayne, IN

Saturday, October 21 | 7p.m.

Ascension Lutheran
Church & School
8811 St Joe Rd.
alcsfw.org

Home Concert River Forest, IL

Friday, October 27 | 8p.m.

Chapel of Our Lord
CUChicago.edu/WindSymphony