



ELECTROACOUSTIC BARN DANCE

Concert 11, HCC Digital Auditorium

November 12th, 7:30pm



To a Distant Star
fixed media
James Murphy

Along the North Shore
Tony Steve, percussion
Michael James Olson

The Pillar
Adam Vidiksis, percussion
John Nichols III

House
video
Mya Payne

“...that road is narrow...”
Margaret Jones, violin
Tim Reed

60 Bandos 60
fixed media
Jorge Variego

Live in the moment; Live in the breath
Samuel Wells, trumpet
Brian Sears

Virgil: Audiit
fixed media
Melika M. Fitzhugh

INTimate Window
I. Pacers
II. Plates
III. Erotic Fascination
IV. Shadow
VII. Reflection
Mark Snyder
choreography by Roxann Morgan Rowley

performers listed on reverse side

INtimate Window personnel

Mark Snyder, conductor, sound, video, suitcase
drum kit

Carmen Lily Flores, conductor, sound, and
video

Becky Brown, harp

Zach Payne, violin

Kaylee Payne, viola

Luke Payne, cello

Austin O'Rourke, suitcase drum kit, synth, and
vibraphone

Unnur Ósk Sigurgeirsdóttir, synth

Next Reflex Collective Dancers

Covenant Babtunde

Kristin Hatelberg

Michelle Hayes

Katherine LaPuma

Mason Prince

Chris Richardson

Maggie Wilder

"**To a Distant Star**" tells the story of a civilization's first long-distance travels into the cosmos.

James Murphy is a senior and computer science major. His main proficiency in music is with guitar, particularly with a twelve string acoustic, but he has recently been exploring electronic music. Previous work by James has been called "an ode to the Blue-Collar American".

Along the North Shore: The north shore of Lake Superior is a special place for me: the rhythms of the waves meet the jagged rocky shores, the massive lake with an endless stretch of horizon. This piece is a snapshot of spending time on the lake; the constant movement framed through the illusion of expansive stasis.

Michael James Olson is a Minnesota-based composer, performer, producer, and media artist. Michael's concert music has been performed throughout the world, including the Beijing Science Museum, SEAMUS, ICMC, EMM, EABD, Noisefloor Festival, International Saxophone Symposium, and Audiograft Festival, among others. Michael is the co-Director of the Root Signals Electronic Music Festival, an semi-annual festival of electronic music and media art which is held at campuses across the country. Michael's music and production has been featured on more than 30 albums and in films and television, including programs on MTV, VH1, E!, Spike, ABC, NBC, PBS, and CBS. He holds a MM from Georgia Southern University, and a Doctorate from Ball State University. Michael currently serves as Assistant Professor of Music Composition and Music Technology at Minnesota State University, Mankato.

John Nichols III's compositions often draw from spiritual sources, as is the case with this composition. **The Pillar** references “a pillar of cloud ... and a pillar of fire” written of in Exodus. This account of the Israelites wandering where the pillar leads them by day and night informed the contours represented in the percussion. The fixed media, which temporally preceded the percussion part in creation, informs the instrumental component.

After performing a transient analysis on the fixed media, most sustained portions resulting from the analysis indicated cadential points. Dense, active areas lead up to or away from sustained notes. Structural designs allowing for shorter durations to approach and depart from these longer sustained cadences were repeated and embedded into larger forms of the same nature. Cadences symbolize alignment between the wanderers (the instrument) and the pillar (the fixed media audio).

The fixed media in *The Pillar* utilizes additive synthesis components created in Digital Instrument for Sound Synthesis and Composition (DISSCO) developed by Dr. Sever Tipei.

Confronting the immediacy of life, the compositions of **John Nichols III** have been described as “cosmic,” “seismic,” and “tectonic.” His works are internationally recognized with awards such as the Grand Luigi Russolo Prize, First Prize in the ASCAP/SEAMUS Student Composer Commission Competition, First Prize Absolute in the International Composition Competition “Città di Udine,” First Prize in the WOCMAT International Phil Winsor Awards, and others. His compositions are published on Musique & Recherches, SEAMUS, Monochrome Vision, ABLAZE Records, and Exhibitronic labels. Nichols currently serves as the Director of the School of Liberal Arts at Northwest Suburban College in the Chicago area.

House: This is a representation of the struggle to fall asleep when so many thoughts present themselves and invade your mind, or house, and eventually consume you. Inspired by the true events of consistently battling between having too many thoughts and sleep.

Mya Payne is a Spanish major with a linguistics minor, but still enjoys making music in her free time. She took Electronic Music and Audio Productions, both taught by Professor Snyder.

"...that road is narrow..." is a reflection on the William Stafford's famous poem, "Traveling Through the Dark."

Stafford's poem presents us with a moral dilemma and stark picture of existence. As Terry Fairchild writes of the poem, "It is about the sadness that accompanies each traveler on the longer journey of life and toward the inevitability of death, so that when we encounter a misfortune on the road, we

hesitate before we move on. Stafford's somber scene is a small tragedy, but in his simplicity, in his directness without swerving, he creates a metaphor for life."

Tim Reed was born in May of 1976 weighing 11 pounds and 9 ounces. During the following fifteen years, his weight steadily increased, reaching approximately 170 pounds in 1991. Tim's height also increased during this time, reaching 6 feet and 4 inches in 1991. Between 1991 and 2007 his height remained steady at 6 feet and 4 inches while his weight fluctuated between 165 and 210 pounds. Tim is currently 6 feet and 4 inches in height and weighs 192 pounds (May 2016).

Tim is Associate Professor of Music Theory/Composition and Music Department Chair at Manchester University (Indiana) and holds degrees from the University of Florida, Illinois State University and LaGrange College.

Margaret Jones has enjoyed a diverse career as a concert violinist and currently performs with the Arkansas Symphony Orchestra, freelances, and teaches privately. She was a founding member of the Indianapolis Chamber Orchestra, performed with the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra, and as Concertmaster of the Danville (IL) Symphony Orchestra. Jones has toured with Mikhail Baryshnikov (White Oak Dance Project), The Lion King, Andy Williams, Perry Como, and Natalie Cole, and has worked on Broadway (Peter Pan), with the American Ballet Theatre, and the Opera Orchestra of New York.

Written in SuperCollider, the piece condenses prominent aspects of Argentine urban culture. Soccer, tango and the sounds of the city create a unique soundscape. "**60 bandos 60**" presents an innovative vision of traditional sonorities.

Jorge Variego was born in Rosario, Argentina. He is a former Fulbright Scholar and is currently on the Music Theory/Composition faculty at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville.

During the summer of 2012, he was resident artist at the CMMAS, in Mexico, where he recorded the material for his CD *Regress*, fully dedicated to new music for clarinet and electronic media by Argentine composers. In June 2013, he was resident artist at the Visby Centre for Composers, in Sweden, where he composed a new work commissioned by the Berner Musikkollegium. In July 2014 he premiered a new work for bass clarinet and orchestra commissioned by the Symphonic Orchestra of Rosario, in Argentina. Most recently, he presented new works in Switzerland, Spain, received honorable mention in the American Prize in composition and was finalist in the SIME Electroacoustic Music Composition Competition.

He is the founder director of the UT Electroacoustic Ensemble, is co-director of the UT Contemporary Music Festival, and is currently co-directing the 2016 Nacusa-SCI Snapshot conferences at UT.

Live in the Moment; Live in the Breath, was written for Sam Wells, and premiered at the 2015 SPLICE festival in Kalamazoo, MI. When I was asked to write this piece (my first for solo wind instrument), I immediately was drawn to the power that the breath has for this type of performer. Their breath empowers them to do amazing things with the instrument, just as our breath empowers all of us to do amazing things with our lives if we learn how to harness it. This piece focuses on the connection between our breath and the greater natural world around us, and begs the listener to always live life to the fullest and make the most out of the time they have here on this earth.

American Composer **Brian Sears's** music is based on his attraction to timbre, space, color and shape. His compositions use these forces to weave complex sonic tapestries that communicate intimate emotional connections. Brian is currently pursuing his PhD in Composition and Theory at Brandeis University. He also holds a Masters degree from Bowling Green State University, where he studied with Dr. Elaine Lillios, and a Bachelors degree from San José State University, where he studied with Dr. Pablo Furman and Dr. Brian Belet. His music has been performed Nationally at festivals and conferences like SEAMUS, NYCEMF, CEMICircles, N_SEME, SICPP at The New England Conservatory and SPLICE Summer Institute as well as by the Toledo Symphony Orchestra and the San José Chamber Orchestra. Brian is a proud supporter of Innovative Percussion sticks and mallets.

Samuel Wells is a composer, performer, and music technologist based in New York City. As an advocate for new and exciting music, he actively commissions and performs contemporary works.

Sam has performed throughout the United States, as well as in Canada and France. He has also been a guest artist/composer at universities throughout North America, including Western Michigan University, Western University of Ontario, and Northern Arizona University. His work, stringstrung is the winner of the 2016 Miami International Guitar Festival Composition Competition. He has performed electroacoustic works for trumpet and presented his own music at the Chosen Vale International Trumpet Seminar, Electronic Music Midwest, Electroacoustic Barn Dance, NYCEMF, N_SEME, and SEAMUS festivals. Sam and his music have also been featured by the Kansas City Electronic Music and Arts Alliance (KcEMA) and Fulcrum Point Discoveries. Sam is a member of Kludge, an innovative duo with Jon Carbin that explores the possibilities of cello, trumpet, and electronic media. Sam has performed regularly with the Owensboro (KY) Symphony Orchestra, and the Colorado MahlerFest Orchestra.

Virgil: Audiit: An exploration of a selection of Virgil's Aeneid: Anna's reaction to the death of her sister, Dido.

A native of Stafford, Virginia, **Melika M. Fitzhugh** (A.B. Harvard-Radcliffe, M.M. Longy School of Music of Bard College) studied conducting and composition with Thomas G. Everett, Beverly Taylor, James Yannatos, Julian Pellicano, Roger Marsh, Jeff Stadelman, and, most recently, John Howell Morrison. Her compositions have been commissioned by John Tyson, Catherine E. Reuben, John and Maria Capello, Laura and Geoffrey Schamu, and the Quilisma Consort, and have been performed by those artists as well as the Radcliffe Choral Society, Berit Strong, Miyuki Tsurutani, Libor Dudas and Aldo Abreu. Mel, who has composed music for film and stage, was a member of Just In Time Composers and Players and is currently a member of world/early music ensemble Urban Myth, in addition to playing bass guitar with acoustic rock singer/songwriter Emmy Cerra, the ambient rock band Rose Cabal and the Balkan folk dance band Balkan Fields.

Mark Snyder is a composer, performer, producer, songwriter, video artist and teacher living in Fredericksburg Virginia. Mark's multimedia compositions have been described as "expansive, expressive, extremely human, ...Snyder's compositions attract performers who resist to works with electronics as well as audiences who don't think they want to hear computer processing." Dr. Snyder is Assistant Professor of Music at the University of Mary Washington teaching courses in electronic music, composition and theory. He earned his D.M.A. from the University of Memphis, an M.M. from Ohio University and a B.A. from Mary Washington College. He is a member of the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers (ASCAP), the Audio Engineering Society (AES) and The National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences (NARAS). marksnyder.org

Roxann Morgan Rowley is the artistic director for Next Reflex Dance Collective. Since 2006 she has been making and producing dance work in the DC Metro Region. Her work has been showcased in productions at Dance Place and Joy of Motion in Washington, DC, Dancing Across the Virginias at the Court Square Theatre in Harrisonburg, VA, the Charlotte Dance Festival in NC, Arts for Change, Mount Rainer, MD, Dance Sampler, presented by Jane Franklin in Arlington, VA and The Goose Route Dance Festival in Sheperdstown, WV, White Wave CoolNYC Festival, The Velocity DC Dance Festival, John F. Kennedy Center, and the Harman Shakespeare Theater. She has choreographed for The American Century Theater, contributing to productions such as The Picnic, A Flag is Born and In the Summer House. Her work has also been presented at James Madison University in their Virginia Repertory Dance Company concert, JMU Student Dance Concerts and New Dance Festival (2006.), George Mason University and The University of Mary Washington. Ms. Rowley holds an MFA from George Mason University and a BA from George Washington University studying under national and international faculty members. Outside of NRDC Ms. Rowley has taught for James Madison University and Fairfax County Public Schools Institute for the Arts and George Mason University dance department. She has an ongoing

relationship with INOVA Hospital's Life with Cancer program contributing movement programs to their constituents. Along with being a mother to two precocious boys and acting as Artistic Director to NRDC, Ms. Rowley teaches for University of Mary Washington and Northern VA Community College.

Becky Brown is a 2015 music and computer science graduate of the University of Mary Washington, where she studied electroacoustic composition with Mark Snyder, and harp performance with Grace Bauson. She has been a performer of Dr. Snyder's music at festivals including SEAMUS, SCI National/Regional Conferences, Third Practice, and Electronic Music Midwest, as well as in his guest artist appearances at numerous universities. Her own works have been performed at SEAMUS, Root Signals, EABD, and the BSU New Music Festival. In addition, Brown has engineered or assisted on recordings in a wide range of genres, and composed music for theater and dance. She is a Music Technology Specialist at the University of Richmond, and the technology director of the Electroacoustic Barn Dance at UMW.

Austin O'Rourke is a composer, multi-instrumentalist, sound designer, electronic music producer and recipient of the ASCAP Morton Gould Young Composers Award in 2015. He was born in Culpeper, Virginia and is studying music composition with Mark Snyder at the University of Mary Washington.

Next Reflex Dance Collective was founded by Roxann Morgan Rowley and Erika Surma in 2007. An award winning modern dance company based in Northern Virginia, NRDC has been presented throughout the region by multiple venues and festivals including The DC Dance Festival, The Charlotte Dance Festival, The DUMBO Dance Festival, The Cool NY Dance Festival, The Goose Route Dance Festival, The Howard Community Festival, Mason/Rhynes Productions "Late Night Series", The Carter Barron Amphitheater, The Workhouse Arts Center, The American Dance Institute, Dance Place, The Harman Center for the Arts, The 2010 Metro DC Dance Awards, The National Theater, The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, among others. NRDC has received support from the Puffin Foundation, the Arts Council of the Valley, the DC Commission for the Arts and Humanities, the Virginia Commission for the Arts, and the Arts Council of Fairfax County. NRDC's en Route! A Touring Dance Project was established in 2007 with the purpose of bringing together diverse artists from various communities to broaden the awareness of dance performance in select cities and to provide touring opportunities for independent artists and small companies. In 2009, NRDC was the proud recipient of the Metro DC Dance Awards' "Founders Award" for innovation in dance and was a finalist in multiple award categories.

<http://www.nextreflex.org>