



# ELECTROACOUSTIC BARN DANCE

Concert 5, HCC Digital Auditorium

November 11th, 4:30pm



The Beginning of the End	fixed media	Jordan Vernon
Alphabet	Tony Steve, percussion	Janis Mercer
Socavino	video	Richard Johnson
Afterimage 3	Tony Steve, percussion	Ronald Keith Parks
Scribbles	Jacob Schlaerth, glass armonica	Jacob Schlaerth
Stories from an Alien Pond	fixed media	Julius Bucsis
If your boy leads	Jenifer Weber, mezzo soprano	Daniel Eichenbaum words by Elizabeth Savage
The Galileo Project	fixed media	Tanner Upthegrove

# NOTES & BIOS

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**Jordan Vernon** is a Sophomore at UMW majoring in Marketing and minoring in Digital studies. The piece presented today is called "**The Beginning of the End**". This piece is based on anxiety. With only two sounds (a biology lab and a 3d printer), the piece shows what it is like to be hollow, to be in the background of life. The struggle and the wanting to break out of the background are what really piece these sounds together.

**Alphabet** is a series of short movements for single percussion instrument and fixed electronics comprised of sounds from that instrument. Commissioned by Joseph van Hassel, the pieces are designed to be portable, using instruments that can be easily taken on tour. Each movement corresponds in shape to the letter of the alphabet for which it is named.

**Janis Mercer** is a composer/pianist, living in San Francisco. Her compositions have been broadcast and/or performed in Europe, the Philippines and the U.S.A and appear on einklang, and Centaur records. Her percussion solo, Air, is published by Media Press and is the subject of articles and dissertations. Current projects include Alphabet for single percussion instrument and fixed electronics. Ms. Mercer holds residencies at Villa Montalvo, Ragdale, Centrum and Kimmel Harding Nelson Center. Her website is [www.janismercerc.com](http://www.janismercerc.com).

**Tony Steve** is a percussionist/composer that is a professor at Jacksonville University. Tony was a member of the Jacksonville Symphony from 1978 until 1993. Professor Steve has played in Europe, Asia, South America and the Middle East. His works have been played across the globe (according to ASCAP) but he is happy to hear them anywhere. Professor Steve also works with Silent Film and live performance and was recently awarded a Spark Grant from the Jacksonville Cultural Council. He has scored numerous films and his most recent project is "The Flying Ace" from Norman Studios.

**Socavino:** Ahh, wine and romance.

**Richard Johnson** is a multimedia artist and composer whose interest in music was piqued during a childhood heavily impacted by film. Equal parts Kurosawa and Spielberg combined to create his ongoing interest in culture and history, the music of Takemitsu and Williams, and an obsession with mystery, adventure, and storytelling. Richard currently resides in Kalamazoo, Michigan, where he serves as Assistant Professor of Multimedia Arts Technology at Western Michigan University.

**Afterimage 3** features sounds produced using an array of non-conventional percussion devices including cement blocks, bricks, bolts, gravel, et al. The sounds produced are all closely modeled on computer music techniques that have become standard over the past twenty years such as granular sampling, spectral filtering, and convolution. Afterimage 3 completes the circuit by utilizing the same materials and structure as ...undercurrent..., but reinterpreted via the computer music

transformation techniques the sounds were originally modeled upon. The focus of the music is timbre and the transformation of timbre through the combination of both acoustic and computer means.

**Ronald Keith Parks** has written for and been commissioned by Duo XXI, Charlotte Civic Orchestra, Out of Bounds Ensemble, NeXT Ens, Force of Nature, SC Music Teachers Association, NC School of the Arts Symphony, the International Music Program, and many others. His compositions have been performed in numerous venues throughout North and South America, Europe, Australia, and Asia. His research into computer music techniques has been widely disseminated. He was awarded the Aaron Copland Award and his music is available on the EMF, Vox Novus, and ERM labels. He is currently Professor of Music at Winthrop University.

**Scribbles** is written for glass armonica and two expression pedals that act similarly to a theremin. One pedal controls the pitch of a sin wave while the other controls amplitude. The sounds of the armonica remain unprocessed. The visuals are programmed in Jitter.

**Jake Schlaerth** is a composer, performer, and artist. He has a particular interest in melding the world of live performance and animation. In addition to his work with computer music and his experiments with built instruments, Jake is studying the glass armonica with Dean Shostak as the recipient of the Colonel Robert B. Craig and Charlotte M. Craig Glass Armonica Fellowship. He received degrees in music performance and composition from Ohio University.

**Stories From an Alien Pond** depicts an imaginary interaction between life forms in and around a pond of liquid on another planet. The piece was inspired by the haiku poem, Old Pond by Matsui Basho and the structure of the piece is set according to the traditional haiku form. It was composed in 2015 and was selected for NYCEMF 2016 held in New York City in June.

**Julius Bucsis** is an award winning composer, guitarist, and music technologist. His compositions have been included in many juried concerts, conferences and festivals worldwide. He also frequently performs a set of original compositions featuring electric guitar and computer generated sounds. His artistic interests include using computer technology in music composition, developing musical forms that incorporate improvisation, and composing music for traditional orchestral instruments. He is currently in pursuit of a DA in Music Composition at Ball State University.

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## If your boy leads

by Elizabeth Savage (Professor of English at Fairmont State)

If your boy leads	love misses
	charms your boy
a charmed life	
let him keep it	let him suffer
	stumbling love
& riches of love	
suffering misses	riches of life
	charming your boy
let him	
keep it	& the stumbling
	of love
if your boy loves	
stumbling	your boy leads
	let him
into riches of life	
suffering misses	keep it
	your boy leads
let him keep	
if riches of suffering	

Composer **Daniel Eichenbaum's** (b. 1977) music has been performed and published throughout the United States, Europe, and Asia. His Sinfonietta, for wind ensemble augmented with string quartet, is a ground-breaking work premiered by the University of Missouri-Kansas City's Wind Symphony under the direction of Steven Davis. Other recent works include Orbit, for flute, clarinet, and live electronics commissioned and premiered by the Kansas City Electronic Music and Arts Alliance and Toccata, for pianist Kari Johnson. He currently serves as Assistant Professor of Music at Fairmont State University in Fairmont, West Virginia, where he hosts the West Fork New Music Festival.

Mezzo soprano **Jenifer Weber** is an active operatic performer from Pittsburgh. Recently, she played the title role in Handel's "Giulio Cesare" with Pittsburgh's Undercroft Opera. She was also the featured guest vocalist at the 2016 West Fork New Music Festival. Ms. Weber earned her MM in vocal performance from the University of Missouri- Kansas City.

**The Galileo Project** is an experimental performance piece devised from crowd-sourced submissions of original and pre-existing work that includes poetry, textual selections from a novel, television

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clips, video clips, film, songs, and a talk to text conversation recorded off an iPhone. Through dialogue interaction between a live actor and a digital character, represented by prerecorded, spatialized audio, the Galileo Project explores the portrayal of the “uncanny valley,” the point at which the synthesized is indiscernible from reality. Computer programming initiated amplitude-responsive lighting contributes to the synthetic environment.

A Southwest Virginia native, **Tanner Upthegrove** is an M.F.A. Candidate in Spatial Audio and holds undergraduate degrees in Recording Arts and Business from Full Sail University. Tanner composes spatial audio for venues with multiple loudspeakers. Tanner joined Virginia Tech's Institute for Creativity, Arts, and Technology in 2013 as an audiovisual design and technology engineer, focusing on spatial sound engineering. Previously, Tanner taught audio electronics at Full Sail University in Orlando, Florida and was Assistant Mastering Engineer to Grammy Award recipient Bob Katz. Tanner holds an InfoComm CTS certification and is an active member in the Audio Engineering Society.