Program

NORSEMAN BAND

Arthur Haecker, conductor

The Three Embraces

I. Antique, Calming
II. With Quiet Longing
III. With Rubato, A Joyous Ceremony At First

Carter Pann (b. 1972) is a celebrated composer and accomplished pianist who has written music from solo works to large orchestra and wind ensemble pieces. His works have been performed around the world. He is on the faculty of the University of Colorado at Boulder, where he continues to write distinctly original music. He provides the following program note in the score of The Three Embraces:

_The Three Embraces_ (2013) was commissioned by current and former students and dear friends in celebration of Allan McMurray's final concert after 35 years as Director of Bands at the University of Colorado. In three movements, these pieces are songs for band. Within _The Three Embraces_, I strived to explore completely new musical territory — different from that of my previous works for winds. The first and second movements are titled "Antique, Calming" and "With Quiet Longing," respectively, and are to sound like aural aromas. The players are given a long trail of the softest dynamics — full fortissimo are rare events in these pieces. Requesting the utmost dynamic restraint from wind and brass players is a risk I have learned to relish taking. The musical reward is so great and the timbral beauty so rich and ever so right to my ears. These first two movements also feature harp and celesta as the two prevailing colors suffusing the music, giving them what I hope to be an aura of ancient, inward elegance (Maurice Ravel lurks in the shadows of these two model Renaissance compositions).

The final movement is a celebration, beginning with three bold proclamations for saxophones and high brass. As the movement unfolds there are pastoral melodies juxtaposed over more modern, angular harmonies. In describing this piece to Allan at the beginning of rehearsals, I made a quip that I now find quite apt: a chance encounter between Schubert and Stravinsky on the Appalachian Trail. This is not the first work I have had the fortune to dedicate to him, but it has become the dearest to me — a final expression for a colleague, mentor, and friend. Over the years I have come to learn of Allan's path through music over time, the key mentors of his past, and his performing experiences around the world. I have even had the pleasure of meeting him in faraway places to share a gig. It is through this kind of time with him (and some very special time on his back deck overlooking much of the Boulder/Denver area) that I have learned this gentleman's values, both in music and in life. His humor is magnetic and ever-present, his magnanimity so humble. I count myself a lucky one to have had a window of time on faculty with such an extraordinary musician and giving person as Allan McMurray.

— Program note by Arthur Haecker

The Cowboys Overture

John Williams (b. 1932)

With a career that has spanned over five decades, it is not surprising that John Williams scored at least one Western. What is interesting, however, is that despite being a prolific film composer with numerous notable works in his portfolio, he has scored less than five Westerns in total! One might wonder why when you hear his robust and brassy soundtrack for the 1972 movie _The Cowboys._

_The Cowboys_ is a 1972 American Western film starring John Wayne, Roscoe Lee Browne, Slim Pickens, Colleen Dewhurst, and Bruce Dern. Robert Carradine made his film debut with fellow child actor Stephen Hudis as cowboys. It was filmed at various locations in New Mexico, Colorado, and at Warner Brothers Studio in Burbank, California. Based on the 1971 novel by William Dale Jennings, the screenplay was written by Irving Ravetch, Harriet Frank Jr., and Jennings and directed by Mark Rydell. The film is also notable for being one of the few in which John Wayne's character is killed and the only one where he is killed by the main antagonist.

— Program note by Arthur Haecker
The first movement of Samuel Coleridge-Taylor’s Violin Concerto in G minor, Op. 80 is rich with grand orchestration and a wistful harmonic palette that highlights the virtuosic nature of the solo violinist. Anglo-African composer Samuel Coleridge-Taylor wrote music throughout his life and worked as a conductor across Europe and the United States. This concerto was Coleridge-Taylor’s last major composition, written for Maud Powell. Powell was an American violinist who was widely traveled and known for premiering a variety of violin concertos in the United States, including those by Tchaikovsky and Jean Sibelius. Rumor has it that prior to the American premiere of this concerto, the parts were lost on the Titanic. Though this rumor was disproven, Coleridge-Taylor still had to rewrite the parts as they were lost on another ship en route to the United States.

The piece is set in a traditional three-movement concerto form. The first movement, which we perform today, begins with a bold fanfare-like opening, thick in texture. The music thins out to make space for the soloist to guide the orchestra through the rest of the piece. The middle section is bright, showcasing the solo violinist’s vast range and technical prowess. While the soloist consistently remains the central focus, Coleridge-Taylor’s scoring spotlights small conversations between the violinist and solo winds. The full-bodied orchestra returns throughout and happily echoes the opening sentiments before the space clears for an enticing violin cadenza laden with drama. Ultimately, the movement finishes with a fast-paced, robust conclusion featuring the orchestra in its entirety.

Soloist

Hailed by the New York Times for her “rich tone” and “virtuosic panache,” Francesca Anderegg is a violinist with a special focus on Latin American repertoire and contemporary music. As a soloist, Ms. Anderegg has performed a wide variety of violin concerti with orchestras in the United States and South America. Her three albums have been noted for their “stunning virtuosity” (Fanfare Magazine), “lustrous tone” (The Strad Magazine), and “riveting listening experience” (Second Inversion). Her latest release, Images of Brazil, was praised by Fanfare Magazine as the “most delightful disc of Brazilian chamber music to come along in years.” Ms. Anderegg is a recipient of fellowships from the McKnight Foundation and the Lenore Annenberg Fund, and she is Associate Professor of Violin at St. Olaf College.
Mesmerism
Grace Brigham ’20 (b. 1998)

Cassidy Albrecht ’23, electric violin; Colby Andersen ’23, soprano saxophone

Grace Brigham’s Mesmerism is an enticing new work that showcases unique motivic development, improvisation, and unconventional harmony. Brigham is a recent St. Olaf College graduate from the class of 2020 and a former violinist in the St. Olaf Philharmonia. She is a budding composer whose main compositional focus has been on choral music. Her compositions have recently garnered attention after performances by ensembles like Cantus, the Washington National Cathedral Choir, and various St. Olaf College choirs. Brigham is currently working on a commissioned piece by Assumption University in Worcester, Massachusetts.

St. Olaf Philharmonia conductor, Martin Hodel, commissioned the piece when Brigham was still a student at St. Olaf. This performance will be the premiere performance and recording of Mesmerism. Mesmerism is based on a piece Brigham had originally written for string orchestra. She wanted to experiment with the development and expansion of original melodic ideas. Brigham was inspired by the complex development of percussive timbres and the improvisational elements she could draw from the jazz style. She came to the name of the piece after considering the ways that she could simply capture the repetitive nature of this piece. Mesmerism’s title recalls Brigham’s layered approach to melody that is intended to evoke a hypnotic sound.

The trumpet section starts the piece, introducing the first motif. Joined shortly by the upper winds, various melodies intersect, creating an exciting conversation between voices. Throughout the piece, Brigham’s motivic development is reminiscent of a fugue. The mood then shifts, highlighting the French horn before the faster pace returns with driving pop-like melodies and improvisation by the uniquely-placed soprano saxophone and solo electric violinist. The piece breaks to make room for an intricate and complex percussion feature. As it draws to a close, Mesmerism synthesizes each unique motif into a powerful and gratifying conclusion.

— Program note by Emmie Head ’22

Mandra: A Fanfara A La Turca for Orchestra
Egemen Kesikli ’12 (b. 1989)

Connor Bitterman ’24, trumpet; Emma Byrd ’23, clarinet, Dante Natal ’23, drums

Turkish composer and performer Egemen Kesikli strives to promote diversity in contemporary music, and his compositions vary from large orchestral pieces and concertos to alternative chamber works featuring traditional Turkish instruments and unconventional ensemble formations. Kesikli’s music has been heard at festivals and venues across North America, Asia, Europe, and Australia, and has been featured on NPR and PBS, as well as on various public radios in Turkey and Austria. He received honors and recognition from ASCAP, Beethoven Club, and Minnesota Music Educators Association, among others. Kesikli received his doctorate of musical arts degree from the University of Colorado Boulder, master’s from the University of Texas at Austin, and bachelor’s from St. Olaf College. He currently holds the position of Instructor of Music Theory at Colorado State University.

About Mandra, the composer writes:

One of the biggest influences in my contemporary compositions is traditional Turkish folk music and the Ottoman palace music. As a composer who began the Classical training at a fairly older age, I grew up listening to, singing, improvising, and eventually writing in these styles as an amateur musician. Several years ago, I decided to pay homage to my heritage and joined the University of Texas at Austin Middle Eastern Ensemble, Bereket. I started learning the oud, a traditional Middle Eastern instrument, and the music theory of Ottoman music, which is a highly complex and sophisticated system, thanks to my amazing mentor and teacher, Prof. Sonia Seeman. Mandra is written in the usul (the rhythmic cycle that complements the melodic rhythm, and helps shape the overall structure of a composition in the Ottoman classical music) of mandra on 7/16 meter. The piece, which was originally composed for traditional Middle Eastern ensemble, was orchestrated upon a kind request from Maestro Martin Hodel, and is dedicated to him and the St. Olaf Philharmonia.

— Program note by Egemen Kesikli ’12
Mary Crawford is a music and religion major from San Francisco, California. Her time as an oboist in Norseman Band has given her some of her favorite memories at St. Olaf. She considers herself very lucky to have had the diversity of musical experiences Norseman Band has provided, from the festive and upbeat Christmas sing-a-longs, to grand and expansive pieces like “Red Sky.” While all three of her years here have been amazing, the very sudden loss of ensemble experience in March 2020 has made her cherish the ability to play music with such a passionate and talented group even more.

Alaina Falck is a biology major from Northfield, Minnesota. She has been part of Norsemen Band’s trumpet section for all four years of her St. Olaf career, and is extremely grateful for the friends and memories she has gained along the way. Outside of music, some of her favorite experiences at St. Olaf include research in the biology department, spending an interim in Italy with the classics department, and taking sculpture studio art classes. After graduation, Alaina looks forward to pursuing her doctor of veterinary medicine at the University of Minnesota College of Veterinary Medicine.

McKenzie Flaten is a psychology major with a German studies concentration from Prior Lake, Minnesota. During her time at St. Olaf, she has been incredibly grateful for the opportunity to play clarinet in Norseman Band. After graduation, McKenzie plans to work as a barista for a few years before attending culinary school in London, England at Le Cordon Bleu to pursue her Diplôme de Boulangerie and Pâtisserie. She is appreciative to have made so many friendships and memories during her time in Norseman Band.

Amy Imdieke is a chemistry and English major from Northfield, Minnesota. She has played her clarinet in Norseman Band for four years, and has loved every minute of it. Her favorite band memories include the scavenger hunts — specifically, when the clarinet section recreated The Lion King on the roundabout near Hoyme. After graduation, Amy plans on working for a climate organization for a year while she applies for graduate school. Her life goals include writing for National Geographic, hiking the entirety of the Appalachian Trail, and spending her free time with friends and family.

Bradford Jensen is a biology and music major from Bartlett, Illinois who participates in both Norseman Band and St. Olaf Cantorei. He plays the trumpet, sings tenor 2, and enjoys expanding his piano repertoire in his spare time. Other hobbies include birding, exercising, listening to music, and photographing bugs. Bradford is incredibly grateful for the friends he has made through music, and though his love of music is great, he plans to pursue his interest in animals and biology at the University of Miami of Ohio, and is optimistic about incorporating them into his life to an even greater extent.

Ben Jorgenson is a biology and political science major with an international relations concentration from Scandia, Minnesota. He has really enjoyed the last four years in Norseman Band as a member of the clarinet section. His favorite band memories include the yearly end-of-fall-semester party, and all of the great friends he met in band. After graduation, Ben hopes to pursue graduate studies, and eventually a career, in public health and/or microbiology.

Abel Lifschutz is a bachelor of music composition major from Eagle River, Wisconsin. He has played saxophone, piano, and percussion in Norseman Band, as well as harpsichord and recorder with St. Olaf Collegium Musicum, and piano with the St. Olaf Band. After graduation, Abel plans to pursue a master’s degree in film scoring from the Pacific Northwest film scoring program.

Ronan Murray is a sociology and anthropology major from Apple Valley, Minnesota. Ronan has been part of the clarinet section of Norseman Band since their freshman year at St. Olaf. He is incredibly glad to have continued playing his instrument through college, and hopes to continue to play casually post-graduation. After graduation, Ronan plans to stay in the Twin Cities and work as part of a non-governmental organization centered around social science research.

Ingrid Nelson is an exercise science and German double major from Hanover, Minnesota. She has enjoyed playing her french horn in the Norseman Band for all four years at St. Olaf. Ingrid is fond of the friendships she has made with her fellow Norse horn players, and the magnificent musical moments she has enjoyed with the ensemble. Over the years, band has provided a place to explore her love for music, relax from other school demands, and have good laughs with friends. Next year, Ingrid will be taking a gap year, in which she will live and teach in Germany, while further exploring her passions in the kinesiology field.

Rylee Roberts is an instrumental music education major from Cold Spring, Minnesota. He's enjoyed being part of the Norseman Band horn section for his four years at St. Olaf, and being the horn section leader for three. Some of his favorite memories include the horn dinners and other antics the horn section got up to, and he's grateful for the awesome friends and memories he got to make during his time with the Norseman Band. After graduation, Rylee plans to teach instrumental music, and eventually further his education.

Tori Swensen is a physics and mathematics major with a concentration in statistics and data science from Eden Prairie, Minnesota. She has enjoyed the opportunity to play clarinet with Norseman Band for all four years at St. Olaf. After graduation, Tori is excited to begin working as a healthcare consultant and business analyst for Whitecap Health Advisors.
Annika Werner is a psychology major with a concentration in women’s and gender studies from Perham, Minnesota. She has enjoyed her four years in Norseman Band playing clarinet and all the great memories and friendships formed in the ensemble. After graduation, Annika will be working as a behavior technician at Caravel Autism Health. Although she is excited to start this new chapter in her life, she will miss being in Norseman Band and all the fun they would have at rehearsals and band events.

Henry Wisniewski is a chemistry and mathematics major from Nashville, Tennessee. He was fortunate enough to participate in the Norseman Band playing flute, as well as participating in Collegium Musicum playing baroque flute and bass recorder. Henry first joined Norseman Band his freshman year and, apart from one semester, has been with the band ever since. He will miss the “Flinners and the Flarties” with his fellow flautists, and hopes to continue playing in some capacity post-graduation. Starting this fall, Henry will begin pursuing a PhD in chemistry at Rutgers University-Newark.

ST. OLAF PHILHARMONIA SENIORS

Ben Carter is a music education major from Rosemount, Minnesota. He has played tuba at St. Olaf for four years in many ensembles. He has played with the St. Olaf Philharmonia for all four years and has loved every moment of it. Outside of St. Olaf, he has been a staunch advocate for the marching arts, having performed four seasons with the River City Rhythm Drum and Bugle Corps. After graduating, Ben will be pursuing a career as a music educator.

Angela (Angie) Kein is a chemistry major from Geneva, Illinois. She is incredibly grateful to have played in the cello section of the St. Olaf Philharmonia orchestra for all four years here on the Hill and served as the president of the orchestra for the last two years. Angie would like to thank her director, Martin Hodel, and her cello professor, Anna Clift, for all that they’ve taught her, and the cello section for making her experience so meaningful. Following graduation, Angie is excited to begin working as a dermatology clinical assistant as she finishes up her medical school applications.

Liv Nycklemoe is a math and studio art double major with concentrations in media and Nordic studies. She has been playing cello for 19 years and has been a member of St. Olaf Philharmonia for all four years at St. Olaf, serving as vice president of the ensemble for her final three years. St. Olaf Philharmonia has been a memorable part of her time at St. Olaf, whether at cello dinners, scavenger hunts, meeting new people, or making music with her peers. She is grateful for everyone she has met through the orchestra and for all of her time with the ensemble.

Venus Su is a music education major from Taipei, Taiwan. In her senior year on the Hill, Venus managed the St. Olaf Philharmonia, played bells with the St. Olaf Handbell Choir, and played piccolo and flute with the St. Olaf Band, St. Olaf Orchestra, and David Kriete’s True Hero Quintet. You may also see her volunteering with APO or searching for Stumpy the squirrel if she’s not around CHM. She is grateful for her time and growth with the St. Olaf Philharmonia and the dedicated “Phriends” she met. Next semester, Venus will student teach near Minneapolis, and dive right into a career in education.
NORSEMAN BAND
ARTHUR HAECKER, CONDUCTOR

PICCOLO
Abigail Williams, Eyota, Minn.

FLUTE
\*Abigail Gaard, Middleton, Wis.
Faith Gaetke, White Bear Lake, Minn.
Emma Hoelscher, Austin, Texas
Hannah Orr, New Prague, Minn.
Elizabeth Schoen, Arlington, Va.

Eva Schoen, service dog
Noah Stamboulieh, St. Paul, Minn.
\+Abigail Williams, Eyota, Minn.
\+Henry Wisniewski, Nashville, Tenn.

McKenna Steineman, Effingham, Ill.
\+Abigail Williams, Eyota, Minn.

FLUTE
\*Abigail Gaard, Middleton, Wis.
Faith Gaetke, White Bear Lake, Minn.
Emma Hoelscher, Austin, Texas
Hannah Orr, New Prague, Minn.
Elizabeth Schoen, Arlington, Va.

Eva Schoen, service dog
Noah Stamboulieh, St. Paul, Minn.
\+Abigail Williams, Eyota, Minn.
\+Henry Wisniewski, Nashville, Tenn.

McKenna Steineman, Effingham, Ill.
\+Abigail Williams, Eyota, Minn.

OBOE
\#Mary Crawford, San Francisco, Calif.
Zoe Esterly, Ottawa, Canada
\^Landry Forrest, Oak Creek, Wis.
Olivia Hjelm, Maple Grove, Minn.
Charlotte Smith, Boulder, Colo.

CLARINET
Missy Daniels, Big Lake, Minn.
Taylor Dirks, Dekalb, Ill.
\§McKenzie Flaten, Prior Lake, Minn.
Ainsley Francis, Charlotte, N.C.
Emma Gambach, Wayzata, Minn.
Gabrielle Heidleberger, Plymouth, Minn.
\^Amy Imdieke, Northfield, Minn.
\#Ben Jorgenson, Scandia, Minn.
\^Riley Kazukiewicz, Eagan, Minn.
Hauseng Lor, Bloomington, Minn.
\§Ronan Murray, Apple Valley, Minn.
Eric Stilwell, Sammamish, Wash.
\^Tori Swensen, Eden Prairie, Minn.
Emily Trendle, Alsip, Ill.
\#Annika Werner, Perham, Minn.
Alex Williams, Eyota, Minn.
Megan Yee, Sioux Falls, S.D.

BASS CLARINET
Honor Czarnik, St. Paul, Minn.
Claire Michelsen, Apple Valley, Minn.
ST. OLAF PHILHARMONIA

MARTIN HODEL, CONDUCTOR

VIOLIN I
Miriam Clapp, Chicago, Ill.
Aubrey Connett, Eden Prairie, Minn.
William Gilbert, Lake Zurich, Ill.
Brock Lawhead, Austin, Minn.
Lecheng (Joshua) Lyu, Kulangsu, China
Anna Weinholt, St. Paul, Minn.

VIOLIN II
Cassidy Albrecht, Stewart, Minn.
SooHyun Kim, Seoul, South Korea
Rachel Colling, Northfield, Minn.

VIOLA
Emily Cerimele, Glenview, Ill.
Rachel Colling, Northfield, Minn.
Annika Hill, Poughkeepsie, N.Y.
Eleanor Hinchcliffe, Austin, Minn.
Joanna Kwon, Murphy, Texas
David Lynn, Redmond, Wash.
Juju Olson, St. Paul, Minn.
Avery Wilson, St. Paul City, Iowa

CELLO
Elsa Buck, Rosemount, Minn.
Angela Kein, Geneva, Ill.
Derk Lyford, Laramie, Wyo.
Liv Nycklemoe, Basalt, Colo.
Ariana Raduege, Bellingham, Wash.
Levi Seeman, Austin, Minn.
John Sellars, Mequon, Wis.

STRING BASS
Grayson Broesch, Omaha, Neb.
Davis Moore, Worthington, Minn.

FLUTE/PICCOLO
Carter Allen, Sullivan, Wis.
Emmie Head, Sammamish, Wash.

OBOE/ENGLISH HORN
Phoebe Joy, Illinois City, Ill.
Carter Kuehn, Owatonna, Minn.
Simon Miller, Oak Park, Ill.
Noah Schilbe, Spokane, Wash.

CLARINET
Emma Byrd, Carbondale, Ill.
Mikayla Carlson, Sioux Falls, S.D.
Matthew Krische, Glendale, N.Y.

BASS CLARINET
Esmir Hodzic, Rochester, Minn.

SOPRANO SAXOPHONE
Colby Andersen, Eagle Point, Ore.

HORN
Katya Jarmulowicz, St. Anthony, Minn.
Anja Logan, Brookfield, Wis.
Michelle Soltis, Brentwood, Tenn.
Noah Tibben-Lembke, Reno, Nev.
Tye Van Pelt, Buffalo, Minn.

TRUMPET
Connor Bitterman, Brooklyn Park, Minn.
Samuel Ivory, Grand Rapids, Mich.
Calvin Reyes, Farmington, Minn.

TROMBONE
Jacob Dreifort, Santa Monica, Calif.
Joseph Mahin, Plymouth, Minn.
Astrid Urberg-Carlson, Minneapolis, Minn.

TUBA
Benjamin Carter, Rosemount, Minn.

PERCUSSION
Estelle Huskins, Rochester, Minn.
Matt McClung, St. Paul, Minn.
Dante Natal, Eden Prairie, Minn.

MANAGER
Venus Su, Taipei, Taiwan
Benjamin Carter, Rosemount, Minn.

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Courtney Kleftis, associate librarian for ensembles & performing rights
Greta Ramsey ’19, arts management intern for production & concert management

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