
ST. OLAF BAND

HENRY L. DORN, *CONDUCTOR*

**FAMILY WEEKEND
HOMECOMING CONCERT**



SATURDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2025 | 7:30 P.M.

SKOGLUND AUDITORIUM

Program

Overture to *The Wreckers* (1904, tr. 2025)

Ethel Smyth (1858–1944)
tr. Jeremy Makkonen

(Transcription Premiere)

Commissioned in part by the St. Olaf Band and St. Olaf College

Les naufrageurs (“The Wreckers”) is a three-act opera by Dame Ethel Smyth, with a French libretto by Henry Brewster. Inspired by tales of Cornish villagers who lured ships to their doom to plunder cargo, Smyth conceived the idea after a walking tour of Cornwall in 1886. Though composed in French in 1904, the opera first premiered in a heavily cut German translation, titled *Strandrecht*, in Leipzig in 1906. Dissatisfied with the alterations, Smyth removed the performance materials herself, halting further shows there. With support from conductor Sir Thomas Beecham and financial backing from Mary Dodge, the opera premiered in English as *The Wreckers* in London in 1909 and later appeared at Covent Garden in 1910. Gustav Mahler had considered the work for the Vienna State Opera before his dismissal upended that opportunity. The work was rarely staged between 1939 and a landmark BBC Proms semi-staging in 1994, which led to recordings and later productions. These included regional performances, such as Duchy Opera’s 2006 Cornish staging and Bard Summerscape’s acclaimed 2015 production in the United States. Arcadian Opera honored Smyth in 2018, linking the opera to the centenary of women’s suffrage. Glyndebourne Opera finally performed *Les naufrageurs* in its original French in 2022.

— Program notes by Henry L. Dorn

In This Breath (2025)

Shuying Li (b. 1989)

Commissioned in part by the St. Olaf Band and St. Olaf College

Notes from the composer:

My nature is the nature of the cloud — the nature of no birth and no death. Just as it is impossible for a cloud to die, it’s impossible for me to die. I enjoy contemplating my continuation body, just as the cloud enjoys watching the rain fall and become the river far below. If you look closely at yourself, you will see how you too are continuing me in some way. If you breathe in and out, and you find peace, happiness, and fulfillment, you know I am always with you, whether my physical body is still alive or not. I am continued in my many friends, students, and monastic disciples.

— Thich Nhat Hanh, *The Art of Living*

This quotation comes from Thich Nhat Hanh’s *The Art of Living*. This book is a collection of the Vietnamese monk’s ruminations on life and death that guided my partner Glen Adsit through his personal struggles when confronted with his own mortality. As well as being my beloved life partner and musical collaborator, Glen was a beloved figure in the music community who touched the lives of countless collaborators and students. In the wake of Glen’s sudden passing in January 2024, we have all become the rain to Glen’s cloud. His inextinguishable spirit and profound influence continue to resonate deeply within all of us. Although his physical body is no longer with us, we now constitute his continuation body and are charged with continuing his legacy of support and love for one another. This piece is a tribute to Glen, the physical life we shared together, and the new life we share as I continue his legacy in my own way. It reflects the profound love and connection we share, both personally and through our collaborative musical endeavors. The piece is lyrical and tender, inviting listeners into the intimate emotional spaces Glen and I navigated together. It captures the essence of Glen’s loving spirit — missed by many, cherished by those who experienced his warmth and guidance, and still apparent in the life and work of his family, colleagues, and students. It is both a celebration of Glen’s life and the enduring bond he and I share and a tribute to the legacy of love and artistic collaboration that he left behind for all of us to continue together.



THE GIFT OF MUSIC — Every Ole participating in the St. Olaf Band has one thing in common: their lives have been enriched by gifts made to St. Olaf College. Year after year, gifts made by alumni, parents, and friends of the college provide vital support for financial aid, academic programs, and the performances that will stay with us forever. Support the tradition of excellence that brings you so much joy, and make your impact today. SCAN THE QR CODE TO MAKE YOUR GIFT TO SUPPORT ST. OLAF MUSIC.

Salsa del Alma (“Salsa of the Soul”) (2024)

Nubia Jaime-Donjuan (b. 1984)

Dana Maeda ’92, oboe

Commissioned in part by the St. Olaf Band and St. Olaf College

Notes from the composer:

This concertino for oboe draws its fire from the world of salsa and is dedicated to the memory of Frank Chen, father of the soloist Nathaniel Chen. Frank danced with boundless soul, and his passion for movement lives on through his two children, Nathaniel and Natalina, who inherited his love for dance. Built on the heartbeat of salsa, the work weaves together the clave rhythm, rich harmonic progressions, and a soloist whose voice shapes and reshapes the music with each new idea.

Dana Maeda is an oboist and educator on the faculty of St. Olaf College in Northfield, Minnesota. As a public and private school educator and studio instructor, she has worked with students from preschool through retirement age. At St. Olaf, her responsibilities include teaching the oboe studio, woodwind techniques, education methods, chamber music, directing the Collegium Musicum (Renaissance Wind Ensembles), and supervision of instrumental student teachers. A founding 34-year member of the WindWorks Woodwind Quintet and 30-year member of the Rochester Symphony, Dana frequently performs in the Twin Cities. Some of her favorite performance opportunities include: Minneapolis Pops Orchestra, Bach Roots Festival, Bach Society of Minnesota, Minnetonka Choral Society, Music St. Croix, working with violinist Midori, the Moody Blues, and pit orchestras for Broadway shows at the Ordway.

INTERMISSION

Symphony in Blue and Gold (2023)

Erika Svanoë (b. 1976)

Commissioned in part by the St. Olaf Band and St. Olaf College

- I. Blues and Fugues
- II. In Gold
- III. Waltz
- IV. Finale

Notes from the composer:

Symphony in Blue and Gold was commissioned to celebrate the 100th anniversary of bands at my alma mater, the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire.

As a starting point, I researched and studied two significant pieces in wind band literature that were composed around the time the band was first formed on campus. These were *La création du monde* (1923) by Darius Milhaud and *Rhapsody in Blue* (1924) by George Gershwin, specifically the original dance band version orchestrated by Ferde Grofé. Both pieces use a combination of classical and jazz influences, and this felt very reflective of my own experience as a music student at UWEC.

Overall, the piece uses a modified four-movement symphony plan. The first movement, “Blues and Fugues,” alternates a standard 12-bar blues with two four-voice fugues. The opening tenor saxophone solo presents the UWEC melodic material that appears throughout all four movements. The second movement, “In Gold,” focuses on timbres played by metallic instruments and introduces the other main melodic material, which musically spells out “BLUGLD.” The third movement is a waltz and the final movement, “Finale,” expands and combines material from the previous three movements.

I am so honored to have the opportunity to write *Symphony in Blue and Gold* for a place where I had so much musical and personal growth. I truly took this opportunity to heart, and tried to grow my own compositional voice and craft while writing this piece as a tribute to a place that was so important in my educational journey.

Please silence your cell phone or other personal communication device.

Unauthorized photography or video/audio recording is prohibited. This concert is archived at stolaf.edu/multimedia

ST. OLAF BAND

HENRY L. DORN, CONDUCTOR

PICCOLO

Ava Durfey, *East Greenwich, R.I.*
Tori Love-Jensen, *Chanhassen, Minn.*

FLUTE

Zea Althoff, *Portland, Ore.*
Daniel Boskovic, *Sammamish, Wash.*
Elizabeth Diaz, *Cary, N.C.*
^ Elizabeth Doty, *Centennial, Colo.*
Ava Durfey, *East Greenwich, R.I.*
† Claire Engler, *Charlottesville, Va.*
Owen Erickson, *Holmen, Wis.*
†* Cole Kehrberg, *Golden Valley, Minn.*
Tori Love-Jensen, *Chanhassen, Minn.*
Jasmine Patterson-LaBaw, *Rochester, Minn.*
Aubrey Sanders, *Ottawa, Ill.*
Jessica Thanghe, *Minneapolis, Minn.*
Caleb Waltz, *Waukesha, Wis.*

OBOE

†~ Connor Coleman, *Geneseo, Ill.*
†* Angeline Domeyer, *River Falls, Wis.*
Sophia Farnum, *Indianapolis, Ind.*
Fin Smajda, *Shawnee, Kan.*

CLARINET

†* Selma Artang, *Duluth, Minn.*
Sofia Espinosa de los Monteros, *Austin, Texas*
Samuel Freimuth, *Rochester, Minn.*
Vincent Giza, *Culver City, Calif.*
Clara Hall, *St. Paul, Minn.*
† Gaby Hoover, *Rosemount, Minn.*
Naomi Janquart, *Middleton, Wis.*
Isabel Kirkeby, *Duluth, Minn.*
♦ Christian Kremer, *Mitchell, S.D.*
Jaidyn Meaux, *New Brighton, Minn.*
† Oslo Martin Risch, *St. Paul, Minn.*
* Lauren Mitchell, *Farmington, Minn.*
Adam Pott, *Arvada, Colo.*
Erin Pratt, *Omaha, Neb.*
Elia Tremblay, *Boulder, Colo.*

BASS CLARINET

Sarie Hoffner, *Tulahoma, Tenn.*
Kiera Stanford, *Seattle, Wash.*
†* Rebekah Talley, *New Berlin, Wis.*

MUSIC ORGANIZATIONS

Michael Kyle '85, *vice president for external relations and strategic partnerships*
Jean Parish '88, *director of music organizations*
Terra Widdifield '95, *associate director of music organizations*
Connor Smith, *assistant director of music organizations for audience development*
Sarah Gingerich '11, *assistant director of music organizations for project management*
Jonathan Kopplin, *associate librarian for ensembles and performing rights*
Position Open, *coordinator of music organizations*
Amelia McNeil-Maddox, *ticketing coordinator*

BASSOON

^ Elizabeth Doty, *Centennial, Colo.*
†* Sarah Hall, *Houston, Texas*
Δ Beck Kranz, *Lakeville, Minn.*

ALTO SAXOPHONE

Ryan Cheng, *Lakeville, Minn.*
Amanda Klug, *Webster, Wis.*
†* Noah Stremmel, *Brookings, S.D.*
Kaiping Zhang, *Edina, Minn.*

TENOR SAXOPHONE

Gavin Stauffer, *Cottage Grove, Minn.*
Sebastian Whitcomb, *Andover, Minn.*

BARITONE SAXOPHONE

Hayden Joseph, *Minneapolis, Minn.*

TRUMPET

Grace Aerisolphal, *West Des Moines, Iowa*
Evelyn Armstrong, *Lake Elmo, Minn.*
Hero Czarnik, *St. Paul, Minn.*
† Samuel Hall, *Charlottesville, Va.*
Sophia Kepros, *Cedar Rapids, Iowa*
Nathan Moon, *Maple Grove, Minn.*
* Logan Rasmussen, *Apple Valley, Minn.*
Jayden Sanchez, *Apple Valley, Minn.*
Ada Schmalz, *Minnetonka, Minn.*
Riley Steinhaus, *Jordan, Minn.*

HORN

Maureen Bowen, *Abu Dhabi, U.A.E.*
† Kyan Carlson, *Sioux Falls, S.D.*
Joel Dressler, *Ames, Iowa*
* Aidan Fitzpatrick, *Duluth, Minn.*
Katie Landwer, *Mankato, Minn.*
Adam Rickman, *Minnetonka, Minn.*
William Ulrich, *Medford, N.Y.*
* Róisín Walsh, *Tinley Park, Ill.*

TROMBONE

Ava Clift, *St. Paul, Minn.*
Anna Gargamelli, *Durham, Conn.*
* Lauren Hanna, *Montevideo, Minn.*
†* William Kroner, *Oro Valley, Ariz.*
Jacques LeMay, *Minneapolis, Minn.*
Wyatt Menke, *Minneapolis, Minn.*
• Brenden Ravndal, *St. Anthony Village, Minn.*

BASS TROMBONE

Chi-Shuo (James) Chang, *Taipei, Taiwan*
Aria Giefer, *Osceola, Wis.*

EUPHONIUM

Carson Bridigum, *Bloomington, Minn.*
† Grayson Chan, *Hong Kong, S.A.R.*
Josiah Domeyer, *River Falls, Wis.*
*^ Julia Kauth, *River Falls, Wis.*

TUBA

Josh Freelove, *Pillager, Minn.*
Sage Kiritschenko, *St. Paul, Minn.*
†* Austin Larson, *Plymouth, Minn.*

STRING BASS

† Declan Coleman, *St. Paul, Minn.*
Ian Hansen, *Woodstock, Ill.*

HARP

Zlata Krutova, *Spring, Texas*
†* MaKenzie Kuckkan, *Rhineland, Wis.*

PIANO

† Elizabeth Chen, *Tamuning, Guam*

ORGAN

Jeremiah Knudson, *Rapid City, S.D.*

PERCUSSION

* Evan Atchison, *Parkville, Mo.*
Sophia Carlson, *Winona, Minn.*
†*^ Morgan Ely, *North Pole, Alaska*
^ Alex McGohan, *Decorah, Iowa*
Chloe Rousseau, *Apple Valley, Minn.*
Abby Schroeder, *Rochester, Minn.*

† Principal/Co-principal

* Section leader

• Officer

^ Manager

- Librarian

~ English Horn

♦ Eb clarinet

Δ Contrabassoon

DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC

Louis Epstein, *department chair*
Tracey Engleman, *department vice-chair*
Barb Barth, *academic administrative assistant*
Lisa McDermott, *academic administrative assistant*
Faith Kimbrell, *instrument coordinator*

BROADCAST/MEDIA SERVICES

Jeffrey O'Donnell '02, *director of broadcast/media services*
Sean Tonko, *associate director of event operations*
Grant Furguele, *associate director of broadcast engineering*
Mia Pardo, *assistant director of production*

FINE ARTS ADMISSIONS

Molly Boes Ganza '08, *associate dean of fine arts recruitment*

INTERESTED IN
BEING AN OLE?



SCAN ME