## THE WALDEN SCHOOL

# Young Musicians Program

# International Contemporary Ensemble Faculty Commission Concert

T H E WALDEN SCHOOL

Friday, July 13, 2018 7:30 pm Louise Shonk Kelly Recital Hall Dublin School Dublin, New Hampshire

Tonight's concert is dedicated to Ellen & Ed Bernard.

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Sueño Lúcido Moshe Shulman

Bridget Kibbey, harp

Uncreation II – HUSK Dennis K. Sullivan II

Ryan Muncy, soprano saxophone Jacob Greenberg, prepared piano

The Color of Dreams Erin Cameron

I. II.

II. III.

IV. V.

> Isabel Gleicher, flute Josh Modney, violin Bridget Kibbey, harp Ross Karre, percussion

I Went in the Water Sarah Riskind

Ryan Muncy, *alto saxophone* Josh Modney, *violin* Jacob Greenberg, *piano* 

Ope! A Swan Brian Fancher

Jacob Greenberg, piano

Terry L. Greene II, narrator Isabel Gleicher, flute Ryan Muncy, alto saxophone Bridget Kibbey, harp Josh Modney, violin Jacob Greenberg, piano Ross Karre, percussion

### **INTERMISSION**

Task Analysis Kittie Cooper

Isabel Gleicher, flute Ryan Muncy, alto saxophone Ross Karre, percussion

Steps Cara Haxo

Ryan Muncy, soprano saxophone Bridget Kibbey, harp

Kid Carbon Nate May

Isabel Gleicher, *flute* Josh Modney, *violin* Ross Karre, *percussion* 

Memory Calendar with Pieces Missing

Alex Christie

Ryan Muncy, alto saxophone Jacob Greenberg, piano Ross Karre, percussion

Amateur Theatrics Daniel Felsenfeld

Isabel Gleicher, *flute* Bridget Kibbey, *harp* Jacob Greenberg, *piano* Ross Karre, *percussion* 

#### **PROGRAM NOTES**

#### Sueño Lúcido

A piece for harp solo that searches to create within itself a dance, inspired by the little expressive rhythmic details that dancers exude.

#### The Color of Dreams

The Color of Dreams is about attempting to remember the details of something fleeting and transient, like the colors in a dream. The piece is structured in five short movements, each of which explores unstable, fluctuating sonic colors.

#### I Went in the Water

This trio for violin, saxophone, and piano grew out of a modal theme that begins "do-ra-mi, do-ra-mi, do-ra-mi-fi-sol," which resembles both the octatonic scale and the Phrygian dominant scale (common in Jewish music). The opening of the piece can express the cautious way that some people dip their toes in water before wading in and swimming. The remainder resembles a dance or a jam session, and it can illustrate a feeling of freedom, losing inhibitions, or playfully splashing friends in the water. The instrumentalists explore this freedom in the middle section by improvising on a notated scale, then joining in a lively dance with frequent metrical shifts that culminate in a wild ascent.

#### Ope! A Swan

Being my first composition, I thought of no better way to begin than with a pun. The working—and now permanent—title, *Ope! A Swan*, didn't necessarily serve as any direct inspiration for the piece, rather simply reminding me of what a Midwesterner such as myself might say when stumbling upon a majestic, white, avian creature. Looking back on the piece and its title, there does seem to be a sort of story being told about this hypothetical Ohioan and their happening upon a swan. The strong, stately opening transitioning to an ethereal exploration of that melody before a frantic, obsessive panic as the bird is about to take flight. Once in the air, the Ohioan is in awe of its beauty, and the swan is able to gracefully fly away into the distance. Again, I will remind you that this is not what the piece is about, but it's nice to think about!

#### The Adventurous Tales of Two Siblings

The Adventurous Tales of Two Siblings is a snippet of a larger idea. Details like the names of characters are left out because I want anyone to be able to imagine themselves on these adventures.

The first story introduces the children. The second story occurs somewhere within a larger narrative for these characters that has yet to be developed.

In short, I've managed to combine my dormant talent for short stories, my love of collaborative music performance, and Meshuggah (my favorite band on planet Earth) all into one piece. I continue to work towards a life in which I write, collaborate, and perform music of my own and others on a frequent basis.

This performance is for Eliza Brown and Chris Wild. To the Walden students, I thought about you while writing this work: what should happen next? To ICE, it has been a tremendous honor! Let's do more!

#### Task Analysis

Task analysis is a teaching strategy in which complex tasks are broken down into smaller steps. This piece creates an environment where performers encounter obstacles in performance and collaboration. Each step of the piece presents individual challenges that interfere with the cohesion of the ensemble.

#### Steps

Lydia Davis's microstory "The Thirteenth Woman" describes a town of twelve women in which a thirteenth woman lives. Although she is ignored by the town and its residents, she continues to live in the town without resenting it. *Steps* (2018) is very loosely inspired by her story.

#### Memory Calendar with Pieces Missing

Some calendars don't tell us the specific time but rather the type of time we are in. Some memories are incomplete, blurred, and hidden.

#### Amateur Theatrics

I like looking at the sleight pieces of the great composers—Stravinsky's music for the elephant; Beethoven's severe anger at losing a penny—and strove to make my own amusing trifle. It was especially gratifying to write a piece with the word "amateur" in the title for members of the International Contemporary Ensemble, who are the most professional people I can think of. Plus it is a title I've wanted to use for some time.

#### ABOUT THE WALDEN SCHOOL

The Walden School, founded in 1972, is a summer music school, camp, and festival offering programs that emphasize creativity and community, specifically through the study of composition, musicianship, improvisation, and choral singing. In residence on the beautiful campus of the Dublin School in Dublin, New Hampshire, Walden provides an inspiring retreat-like environment ideal for creative music making.

The Walden School's 2018 programs include the Young Musicians Program for students ages 9 to 18, and the Creative Musicians Retreat for adults. The School's Concert Series showcases free public performances by renowned artists and ensembles that work closely with program participants.

The Walden School has twice been awarded a Chamber Music America/ASCAP Adventurous Programming Award, has won a New Music Educator Award from the American Music Center (now New Music USA), has been a finalist for the National Arts and Humanities Youth Program Award, and in 2017, was awarded a Ewing Arts Award. The Walden School is the successor organization to the Junior Conservatory Camp. The Walden School is a 501(c)3 organization, supported by major foundations, corporations, and hundreds of generous individual donors. For more information about The Walden School, visit our website at www.waldenschool.org.

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www. waldenschool.org