



## PROGRAM NOTES

### A NIGHT OF PERCUSSION

featuring the

UNIVERSITY OF REDLANDS PERCUSSION ENSEMBLE  
Bill Schlitt, director

Thursday, November 8, 2018 - 8 p.m.  
UNIVERSITY HALL

Power Struggle

Nathan Daughtrey  
(b. 1975)

A Far Cry From Here: Birds of Another Feather

Collin Tarr  
(b. 1998)

Thank You

Ivan Trevino (b. 1983)

Fandango 13

Michael Burritt  
(b. 1962)

### INTERMISSION

Sharpened Stick

Brett William Dietz  
(b.1972)

Sculpture In Wood

Rüdiger Pawassar  
(b.1964)

The Surface of the Sky

Blake Tyson (b. 1954)

Epic Proportions

Jonathan Ovalle  
(b. 1976)

Power Struggle

Nathan Daughtrey

Nathan Daughtrey has distinguished himself as a percussionist and composer. He is active and sought after as a performing artist and clinician of the Yamaha Corporation and Vic Firth, Inc. As a composer, his works have been performed by soloists and ensembles of all levels at festivals and venues around the world. Daughtrey is the only composer to win 2nd and 3rd place in the same year in the Percussive Arts Society Composition Contest. *Power Struggle* features a balanced ensemble of 4 keyboard percussion and 4 battery percussion. Daughtrey describes the piece in saying, “the struggle is apparent from the opening bars of the piece, with both halves of the ensemble competing for attention in an exhilarating and bombastic fashion. The struggle subsides briefly as the keyboards present a new melody and the battery provides a quietly grooving backdrop. The opposing sections of the ensemble continues this struggle, inwardly and outwardly, until the end of the piece.”

A Far Cry From Here: Birds of Another Feather

Collin Tarr

Collin Tarr is currently completing a Bachelors of Music in Composition at the University of Redlands, studying under Dr. Anthony Suter. Collin writes, “A Far Cry From Here: Birds of Another Feather was written at a time when it was needed most. The piece, acting as a sort of “ode to New England,” functions on many different levels, and was written for many different people. One of those people is one of my dearest confidants, companions, and friends, Danny. Growing up, I knew him through thick and thin. However we both chose to leave the land we love to pursue educations in entirely new environments. This piece is as much for him as it is for me, in the sense that we both need to be reminded of home now and again, just as we all do. This piece is written as a concept piece. The objective is to present music to the audience in a way that is new, and also seeks to push their thought processes on how music can be taken in.”

Thank You

Ivan Trevino

Ivan Trevino received a B.M. and M.M. from Eastman School of Music. He is a multi-award winning recipient of the Percussive Arts Society’s International Composition Contest and has composed over 30 works for

percussion. He is also an avid performer and educator. *Thank You* was written in honor of Alan Hunt, a music educator in Cleveland, Tennessee, who has taught and inspired countless young musicians for over 35 years.

### Fandango 13

Michael Burrirt

Michael Burrirt received his Bachelor and Master of Music degrees as well as the prestigious Performer's Certificate from the Eastman School of Music. He is currently professor of percussion and head of the percussion department at Eastman. Burrirt performed for over 40 years as one of the world's leading percussion soloists. As a composer, his works for solo marimba here become standard repertoire for the instrument. Burrirt explains, "the percussion sextet *Fandango 13* is a reworking of an earlier piece for keyboard quartet work commissioned by the West Point Academy titled *Four Points West*. I thought that expanding the expanding the instrumentation to include several additional keyboards, hand drums, and tom toms would make it a more dramatic piece standing alone as a virtuosic burst of energy form beginning to end." It was premiered by the Eastman Percussion Ensemble at the Percussive Arts Society's International Convention in 2013.

### Sharpened Stick

Bret William Dietz

Brett William Dietz earned the Bachelor of Music in Percussion and the Masters of Music in Composition & Theory from Duquesne University and Doctorate of Music from Northwestern University. Dietz is in demand as a clinician and soloist as well as an avid composer in the U.S. and abroad. According to Dietz "*Sharpened Stick* is a Native American war song and dance that is in the "fish-step" style. It is said that the popular 1920's dance craze the 'Charleston' was derived from this dance. At certain points of the composition, the performers shout "YO-HO" - in Native American music this is sounded by the 'head singer' and signifies a change of direction in the music as well as a change in the direction of the dance. The "WHOO!" indicated at the end of the piece is high and shrill in pitch."

### Sculpture In Wood

Rüdiger Pawassar

Born in 1964 in Lübeck, Germany, Rüdiger Pawassar has been a resident percussionist at the Staatsorchester Kassel since 1990. He studied persussion in Lübeck and Freiburg, Germany. Pawassar points to composers Luigi

Nono, Iannis Xenakis, and Mauricio Kagel as his inspirations. He has also studied marimba in the U.S. with Leigh Howard Stevens. Pawassar is a member of the chamber ensemble "Triomotion" (flute, vibraphone, and marimba). *Sculpture in Wood* was commissioned by the Marimba Art Ensemble Basel. It premiered in Freiburg in 1995 and was recorded on their CD, "Japan Tour 1997." This marimba quartet as well as the trio version, *Sculpture 3*, has become one of the most often performed chamber works for marimba ensemble.

### The Surface of the Sky

Blake Tyson

Blake Tyson holds a Bachelor of Music in performance from the University of Alabama, a Master of music from Kent State University, and a Doctor of Musical Arts from the Eastman School of Music. While at Eastman, he was awarded the prestigious Performer's Certificate. Tyson's compositions are performed in concert halls around the world and his own performances have taken him to five continents and over 30 states. *The Surface of the Sky* was written to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the 1957 integration of Little Rock Central High School in Arkansas and is dedicated to the nine students who courageously led the way.

### Epic Proportions

Jonathan Ovalle

Percussionist and composer, Jonathan Ovalle, is assistant professor of music and coordinator of the percussion program at the University of Michigan where he serves as the co-director of the University's famed percussion ensemble. *Epic Proportions* is scored for a pair of soloists (marimba soloist and drumset soloist) with percussion quartet. The central motivic material is primarily generated from the syllabic relationship of the title itself (E-PIC/PRO-POR-TIONS) using the number 2 and 3. The rhythmic influence of these two numbers can be found in forward sequences (2 and 3), backwards sequences (3 then 2), and in combinations (2-over-3, groupings of 5, etc.) throughout the work. Both numbers provide a constant impetus for the development of rhythmic, melodic, harmonic and phrase structures. Additionally, the sextet configuration provides opportunities for permutations of these two numbers as a basis for different instrument pairings and ensembles. Duos, trios, and other smaller groupings are frequently utilized to reinforce the central motivic devices of the numbers 2 and 3.

## BIOGRAPHIES

Bill Schlitt, director

Bill Schlitt has been an instructor at University of Redlands for 19 years teaching percussion and directing the Percussion Ensemble. He received his B.A. degree in Music and his B.S. degree in Communications from California State Polytechnic University. Bill has performed for twelve years as a free-lance recording percussionist for various motion picture and television films as well as numerous audio recordings. He has performed for 43 as a free-lance percussionist in various ensembles and orchestras throughout Southern California, including stage productions, concerts, commercial music and numerous church productions. Bill recently retired from the faculty at the Idyllwild Arts Academy and Summer Program after 26 years. He served as principal percussionist with Music Theater of Southern California for ten years. He is currently the timpanist with the Redlands Symphony Orchestra, and has performed as an extra percussionist with the Los Angeles Philharmonic. He is an accomplished percussion educator, clinician, and author of the drumset method book *Rock Connection*. Bill is also currently on the faculty at Azusa Pacific University, Vanguard University, California State Polytechnic University-Pomona, Concordia University-Irvine, and is a member of Pi Kappa Lambda and the Percussive Arts Society.

## ENSEMBLES

### University of Redlands Percussion Ensemble

Skyler Cain	Tim Laguna*
Jack Dimmock	Abigail Mellado
Alicia Femath	Zach Salmeron
Eric Fortson	Bodi Stern
Adam Joseph	Collin Tarr
Tate Kinsella	Samantha Vasquez
Julian Kley*	Danilo Virata

\*graduate assistant

### SCHOOL OF MUSIC UPCOMING EVENTS

**Faculty Recital:** Alison Luedecke, organ;  
David Scott, trumpet; Carolyn Beck, bassoon

Oct 30th, 2018  
8:00 pm–9:30 pm  
Memorial Chapel

**Graduate Voice Recital**  
Chloe Jasso, soprano

Nov 3rd, 2018  
6:00 pm–7:00 pm  
Fred Loewe Performance Hall

### Feast of Lights Vigil

November 4th, 2018  
7:30 pm–10:30 pm  
Memorial Chapel

Culminating a month of spiritual and musical preparation, tonight's Vigil celebration, introduced in 1974, serves as a prelude to The Feast of Lights, a nationally recognized Christmas celebration presented by the University of Redlands' School of Music.

Underscored by choral meditations and acclamations, the Candle Lighting Ceremony proclaims through scripture and ancient text the coming of the Messiah. Illuminating Memorial Chapel until the concluding performance of “Silent Night” at the final Feast of Lights presentation, a single lighted candle serves as a constant reminder of the significance of the events that mark the season.

### **2018-2019 Concerto Competition Finals**

Nov 5, 2018  
1:00 pm–4:00 pm  
Memorial Chapel

**For a complete calendar of School of Music events visit**  
[www.redlands.edu/music](http://www.redlands.edu/music)