Performances of New Music by CMS Composers I

Mark A. Olivieri • Concert Manager

Monday, July 15, 2019
1:45 p.m.
Ghent Opera House, Lully Hall
Ghent, Belgium
Suite à l’antique .............................................. David Werfelmann (Webster University)

I. Prelude
II. Pavane
IV. Sarabande
V. Passepied

May Phang (DePauw University), piano

Suite à l’antique is a collection of five movements loosely modeled on the dance suites of the Baroque era. Each movement is unique in character and affect, drawing relationships to the traditional dance form in different ways. The first movement, “Prelude,” is a cascade of broken chords that drift lower and lower over a chromatic bass. The second movement, “Pavane,” is not traditionally found in Baroque suites, yet occupies a special place in the dance literature. Movement three is a pair of minuets, played da capo, that perhaps more than the other movements, explores the traditional structure of baroque dances. The fourth, “Sarabande” is dark and foreboding — listen closely and you might hear Handel’s ghost. Finally, the “Passepied” is a quick dance that brings the work to a cheerful close.

The Five Rings ................................................. Kristen Lia Stoner (University of Florida)

Kristen Lia Stoner, piccolo

The Book of Five Rings is an ancient Japanese text by Miyamoto Musashi (c. 1645) that addresses the art and philosophy of martial arts and combat. There are five sections of the text that align with the elements: The Book of Earth, The Book of Water, The Book of Fire, The Book of Wind, and The Book of Void. In this composition, we briefly travel through each element, while exploring the many different voices and technical capabilities of the solo piccolo. Through the use of contemporary techniques such as timbral trills, alternate fingerings, pitch bending, beatboxing syllables, and singing while playing, this piece for piccolo explores the wooden, breathy colors of the Japanese shakuhachi with a contemporary twist.

Songs of Supplication ........... David Horace Davies (Texas A&M University–Commerce)

I. O Splendor of God’s Glory Bright
II. Be Thou My Vision

Jennifer Glidden (Texas A&M University–Commerce), soprano
Carrie Davies (Trinity Presbyterian Church), piano

This pair of short songs reflects my long-standing interest in the “recycling” of old hymn texts with newly composed music. The first is bright in tone and texture... melodic cells and lydian pitch collections abound. “Be Thou My Vision” is somewhat darker and more contemplative in tone. The challenge with this text was the familiarity of its tune. Though I did my best to keep it from creeping in, close listeners will note that the harmonic and rhythmic characteristics of the final stanza are inspired by the familiar tune, with an occasional quotation of the original melody in the accompaniment.
50+50 Trombone Triathlon ......................................... Don Bowyer (Sunway University)
   I. Swimming
   II. Biking
   III. Running

Don Bowyer, trombone

This piece was composed as a commission for a friend, as a surprise birthday gift to honor the 50th birthday of another friend who is a trumpet player and triathlete. The friend who commissioned the piece initially asked me to compose something with only 50 notes (one for each year). I asked her if we could stretch it to three movements with 100 notes each (one for each year, plus 50 more for the future). We decided to make it a theatre piece based on the triathlon. I later adapted the piece for trombone.

   Each movement represents a different stage of the triathlon. The performer should play each movement in a different space on the stage, as far apart as possible. The performer wears a different prop for each movement — swim goggles, a bicycle helmet, and a runner number — and must move as quickly as possible from movement to movement, changing props during the transitions.

Aussie Echoes .................................................... Judy Bruce (New Castle, Pennsylvania)
   Is There Coffee in Paradise?
   The Peoples Tongue
   Rain Forest Station, Queensland
   Tangalooma Tango

Cassandra Eisenreich (Slippery Rock University), flute
Colleen Gray (Slippery Rock University), soprano
Nanette Kaplan Solomon (Slippery Rock University, emerita), piano

Aussie Echoes is a four-movement piece scored for flute, soprano, and piano. The genesis of the piece was a trip to Sydney, Australia and a tour of several cities on the east coast of the country. A friend who was also along on the trip began writing poetry about his experiences and thoughts of Australia. When we returned to Pennsylvania, I set four of his poems to music.

   The first movement, “Is There Coffee in Paradise?” evokes a birdlike quality, with the fluttering of 32nds and trills and the answering back and forth between the flute and piano. It is followed by “The People’s Tongue.” This movement uses different modal melodies and percussive musical sounds. The piano begins by striking the soundboard with a rubber mallet, and the flute uses flutter tonguing and speaking “cha” into the mouthpiece using air and no pitch. The sounds evoke the mysteries of natural wonders and the music of the indigenous people. Movement 3 is called “Rain Forest Station, Queensland.” It is characterized by the flowing sound of river grasses and the echoing between the flute and piano in the quiet and soothing rapid flow of scalar and arpeggio patterns. The florid, melodic lines reflect the abundance of growth in the rain forest. The final movement is called “Tangalooma Tango.” The finale has a strong, forte sound with cross rhythmic patterns between the flute and piano, percussive blowing in the flute, and short, percussive motives bringing the cycle to a rousing close.
Frenetic Dream .......................................................... HyeKyung Lee (Denison University)
Craig B. Parker (Kansas State University), trumpet
HyeKyung Lee (Denison University), piano

*Frenetic Dream* was written for Jack Sutte (Cleveland Orchestra). The outer parts have jagged rhythmic drive while the middle part has lyrical melody over perpetual motion.

On the History of Secrecy ................................. Richard Anatone (Ball State University)

Revolution

Richard Anatone (Ball State University), piano

“Revolution” is the third movement of a 5-movement piano sonata titled “On the History of Secrecy,” a cyclic work based on the various instances throughout history where secrecy played an integral role in shaping human events. While the inner three movements are all played without break to create a larger sonata-rondo form, they all contain their own localized form. “Revolution” is its own rondo form and joins the second and fourth movement together. Its name is taken from various revolutions that occurred in the 18th and 19th centuries. Throughout the movement, one will hear the “Revolution” theme, which is derived from the sonata’s cyclic theme, as it interrupted by various musical quotations, which represent the various revolutions upon which this movement is based.

Trio for the Common Man .......... Mark A. Olivieri (Hobart & William Smith Colleges)

Stephen Nordstrom (University of Texas at El Paso), violin
Benjamin Cline (Fort Hays State University), cello
Tomoko Kashiwagi (University of Arkansas–Fayetteville), piano

Commissioned by the Rothko Piano Trio, *Trio for the Common Man* was written for a collaboration with choreographer Suzanne Oliver. There exists a strong connection between the musical aesthetic and movement rhetoric she created for her choreographic essay. The piece chronicles the mother/daughter relationship—birth, the innocence and spirit of childhood, defiance of our teenage years, the fellowship and awareness we enjoy without parents in adulthood, becoming a caregiver ourselves, and finally, the passing of one’s mother. I wrote a series of vignettes to encapsulate these specific moments.

The music opens and finishes with a simple chaconne played by the pianist, over which the other parts freely unfold. The violin and cello are at times, deliberately dependent on the piano for harmonic context—which serves as a metaphor for the cyclical nurturing narrative of the choreography.
Anatone, Richard
Richard Anatone was born in 1985 in Providence, Rhode Island and is an active performer, teacher, and composer. He completed his Bachelor of Music in piano performance at Rhode Island College in 2009, studying piano with Judith Stillman and composition with Barbara Kolb, and was a founding member of the college’s New Music Ensemble. He attended Ball State University for both his MM and DA in piano performance, studying piano with Ray Kilburn and composition with Jody Nagel, composing a new piano sonata for his dissertation. He currently teaches music theory and music history at Ball State University. He is an avid promoter of new music as both a composer and performer and has performed at SCI National Conferences, and has his music performed in numerous festivals. In addition, he teaches piano and theory at Blue Lake Fine Arts Camp during the summer and teaches his private piano studio year-round.

Bowyer, Don
Don Bowyer is Dean of the School of the Arts and Professor of Music at Sunway University in Malaysia. Having previously taught at every level from kindergarten through university in the USA, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and Sweden, Bowyer is an active composer and performer. He has published more than 60 pieces of music and has performed as a trombonist in more than 50 countries. Among other performing credits, he spent five years playing trombone on eleven cruise ships in the Caribbean Sea, the Mediterranean Sea, and the Gulf of Alaska. The first ten didn’t sink.

Bruce, Judy
Judy Bruce, composer and pianist, is a native New Yorker and a longtime resident of New Castle, Pennsylvania. She has been actively composing works for solo piano, piano duet, piano and violin, piano and flute, piano and saxophone, woodwind trios and quartets, string quartets, choral music, works for voice and piano, band pieces, and orchestral works. Her works have been performed at Carnegie Mellon University and Duquesne University in Pittsburgh, PA, Youngstown State University in OH, Eckerd College in Fl., Seton Hill College in PA, Indiana University of PA, Suny University in Pottsdam, NY, Eastman School of Music in Rochester, NY, and at many local venues in PA and Ohio. Her orchestral piece, “Changes,” was chosen in 2011 for a public reading session by the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, and her piano concerto, Celebration, was premiered by the Renova Festival Orchestra in New Castle, PA. Her Sonata for Flute and her violin and piano piece, Tecate, were both performed by Renova faculty. The College Music Society chose Tecate to be performed in Sydney, Australia, her piano duet, Motions, to be performed in Buenos Aires, Argentina, and her piano solo, The Linden Tree, to be performed at Washington State University in Pullman, Washington. Her piano duet, Comin’ Home, was chosen to be played at Christopher Newport University in Newport News, VA by The Society of Composers, Inc. She has studied with composers David Stock and Erberk Eryilmaz.
Davies, David Horace
David Horace Davies is Associate Professor of Music and Head of Theory Studies at Texas A&M University–Commerce. His music has been performed extensively throughout the U.S. and internationally in prestigious venues such as Carnegie Hall and Cooper Union in NYC, the Culturo Jorge Borges in Buenos Aires, and the Conservatorio de Musica de Puerto Rico in San Juan. Recently his music was included in the Basically Beethoven Festival in Dallas and the New Music on the Bayou Festival in Louisiana, and recent commissioning ensembles include Trio Cavanah, Astraios Music, and Soprani Compagni. He has received awards from The College Music Society and the International Arts Movement, and is a three-time Semi-Finalist for the American Prize for Choral Composition (2017, 2016–Honorable Mention, 2014). Prior to A&M Commerce, Davies served on the faculty of the Greatbatch School of Music and Augustana College in Rock Island, IL. He holds degrees from the University of Miami’s Frost School of Music and the Greatbatch School of Music, Houghton College, and he has studied composition with Dennis Kam, Mark Hijleh, and John van der Slice. Davies music is published by Inside View Press and Jomar Press. In 2016 he was appointed to a three-year term as President of the Christian Fellowship of Art Music Composers (CFAMC) and he is an active member in The College Music Society and the Society of Composers, Inc. [www.davidhoracedavies.com]

Lee, HyeKyung
An active composer/pianist, HyeKyung Lee has written works for diverse genres and media: from toy piano to big concerto, from electronic music to children’s choir. Recent commissions include the Bonnie McElveen Commission for Maestro Gerard Schwarz and the Eastern Music Festival, Renée B. Fisher Piano Competition, and the Meg Quigley Vivaldi Bassoon Competition.

Lee’s music has been described as “virtuosic fantasy where continuous rhythmic motion smoothly joined contrasting moods and effectively propelled from one section to another”…. show[ing] a penchant for colorful timbres, expressive lines, and lively rhythmic interaction of instruments”.

Born in Seoul, Korea, HyeKyung studied at YonSei University in Seoul, Czech-American Summer Music Institute in Prague, and University of Texas at Austin where she received an MM, a DMA in composition, and a piano performance certificate. She is Associate Professor of Music at Denison University in Granville, Ohio.

Her works are available on Pavane, Vienna Modern Master, Innova, New Ariel, Equilibrium, Capstone, MSR Classics, Mark Custom, Ravello recordings, and SEAMUS CD Series Vol. 8.
CompositorBiographies

Olivieri, Mark A.
Mark Olivieri (b. 1972) is a composer whose music is performed throughout the USA and abroad in such venues as The Kennedy Center, Carnegie Hall, The Sibelius Academy, The Royal Academy of Music in Stockholm, Glinka Concert Hall in St. Petersburg, Russia, and Harpa Concert Hall in Reykjavik, Iceland.

Olivieri’s experience as an improvisatory musician and jazz arranger informs his work, and his compositions are inspired as much by Black Sabbath and Thelonius Monk as they are by traditional concert music. Critically acclaimed by the New York Times, Olivieri’s music has been described as “Glittering!” and “Pop-infused.”

Concert pianist Nicholas Phillips writes: “Mark Olivieri writes music that satiates performers and listeners like a breath of fresh air. His ability to combine different styles – jazz, tango, funk, minimalism, etc., with his personal voice leads to extremely engaging and effective works.” “His compositions,” the composer and concert pianist Robert Auler adds, “frequently make use of vernacular and jazz elements as source material, and what springs forth is an infectious joy, a spontaneity, and above all, a truly authentic voice.”

Olivieri is currently working on two very different commissioned compositions; his fourth piano trio and an operetta based on the life of Elizabeth “Libba” Cotten that will premiere in Brussels, Belgium, and Syracuse, New York in the summer of 2019. A recording of Olivieri’s selected chamber works was released in the fall of 2018.

Stoner, Kristen Lia
Kristen Stoner is Professor of Flute at the University of Florida. She has performed as a soloist at international conferences and festivals on six continents. Her two solo CDs, Images and Colors, feature contemporary works for unaccompanied flute, highlighting works by women and other underrepresented composers. Stoner, also an active composer, has had works programmed at CMS Regional and International Conferences and at National Flute Association Conventions. An advocate of new music and innovations in studio teaching, she was a featured presenter at the CMS Summit for 21st Century Music School Design.

Werfelmann, David
David Werfelmann is an award-winning American composer of instrumental, vocal, and electronic music whose works are widely performed and recorded by ensembles and soloists throughout the US. Among the many professional ensembles that have performed his works are the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra, The Zzyzx Quartet, and the Hear Now Ensemble. David’s music can be heard on five professionally recorded CDs, including the Fischoff Award-winning Barkada Quartet’s premiere album Aventura. His music is heard frequently at conferences and festivals, such as the NOW HEAR Festival, several North American Saxophone Alliance conferences, the Society of Electroacoustic Music in the USA convention, the CSU Fullerton New Music Festival, the Berkeley Arts Festival, and the Navy Band International Saxophone Symposium. David has been commissioned by ensembles such as the Slipstream Quartet, the HOCKET piano duo, the Hear Now Ensemble, the WMTA, and a consortium of college wind ensembles, as well as soloists including Michael Mizrahi, Andrew Harrison, and Rafael Liebich. David is currently an Assistant Professor of Music at Webster University in Saint Louis and has received music degrees from USC (DMA), Indiana University (MM), and Lawrence University (BM). [www.davidwerfelmann.com]
Anatone, Richard
see composer bio above

Bowyer, Don
see composer bio above

Cline, Benjamin
Benjamin Cline is an American cellist who has performed in dozens of venues in the United States, Europe, Near East, and Asia. He has appeared as soloist with many orchestras, including the Kaohsuing City Symphony Orchestra in Taiwan, was featured in performance on Public Radio’s WXXI “Live from Hochstein” in Rochester, and has collaborated with many noted musicians, including Yumi Hwang-Williams, Theodor Kuchar, Richard Fuchs, and Tali Morgulis. A highly versatile musician, he has performed as recitalist, soloist, orchestral principal, and chamber musician. His repertoire is equally diverse, spanning from the 17th century works of Gabrielli to 21st century electroacoustic works for cello.

Mr. Cline currently teaches Fort Hays State University as Associate Professor of Cello and Bass, and serves as Department Chair. He studied with Alan Harris at the Cleveland Institute of Music and Jim Fitz at the University of Northern Colorado. Master classes and additional studies were undertaken with Norman Fischer, Gordon Epperson, Anne Epperson, and members of the Cleveland and Julliard String Quartets.

Mr. Cline resides in Hays with his wife and enjoys spending his free time gardening, fishing, and cooking. He plays on an Italian cello by Luigi Bajoni.

Davies, Carrie
Pianist and cellist Carrie Davies received a Bachelor of Music in Piano Performance from the Greatbatch School of Music, Houghton College. An active performer, Carrie has played in venues such as the Great Hall at Cooper Union, and the Centro Cultural Borges in Buenos Aires; at conferences of The College Music Society, International Arts Movement, SCI, and the Christian Fellowship of Art Music Composers; as staff accompanist for various college ensembles; and with ensembles such as the Quad City Symphony and the Riverbend Theatre Collective. She is Director of Worship Arts at Trinity Presbyterian Church in Plano, TX.

Eisenreich, Cassandra
Cassandra Eisenreich is on the Flute and Music Education faculty at Slippery Rock University, where she teaches Applied Flute, Flute Ensemble, Flute Pedagogy, Musicianship I-IV, Elementary Methods in Music Education, Music for the Diverse Learner, and Popular Music Pedagogy. She volunteers her time serving as the director and lead teacher for the SRU Early Childhood Music Community Engagement Initiative.

Glidden, Jennifer
Jennifer Glidden is an Assistant Professor of Music at Texas A&M University–Commerce. In addition to teaching applied voice and opera workshop, she directs the Department of Music’s Mainstage productions. Dr. Glidden is an active performer and recitalist performing both classical and musical theater repertoire. In 2011, Dr. Glidden earned first place in the 15th International Canto Lirico Voice Competition and Festival held in Trujillo, Peru. As the top winner, Dr. Glidden was invited to perform with the Juvenil Silvestre Revueltas Symphonic Orchestra in Leon, Mexico, and was invited by the Iberian and Latin American Music Society to present a solo recital at St. Martin-in-the-Fields in London, England.

Dr. Glidden earned her DMA from the University of North Texas where she studied voice and pedagogy with Stephen Austin and opera with Stephen Dubberly and Paula Homer. She also holds degrees from Southern Methodist University and the Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music.
Gray, Colleen
Colleen Gray, soprano, has performed extensively with orchestras and opera companies throughout the United States. She is a frequent presenter of new music for music conferences, with performances for CMS international conferences in Japan, Ireland, Costa Rica, Spain, Thailand, and Croatia, the International Alliance of Women in Music Congress, numerous College Music Society national conferences, and seven Festival of Women Composers International conferences.

Kashiwagi, Tomoko
Pianist Tomoko Kashiwagi takes pleasure in the diverse repertoire she encounters everyday as an educator and performer. From playing harpsichord in an ensemble to learning the piano reduction of a newly composed concerto, or teaching standard solo piano repertoire to coaching chamber music, they are all in a day’s work. Kashiwagi has performed in such prestigious venues as the Kennedy Center in Washington D.C. Suntory Hall in Tokyo, Central Conservatory in Beijing, Guildhall School in London among others. She was the staff pianist for the renowned Meadowmount School of Music for six summers and was the official pianist for Menuhin International Violin Competition in 2014. Kashiwagi completed her Bachelor of Music and Master of Music degrees as well as the Performer Diploma in Piano Performance at Indiana University. She is the first recipient of the Doctor of Musical Arts degree in Collaborative Piano from the University of Texas at Austin where she studied with Prof. Anne Epperson.

Kashiwagi is currently the Assistant Professor of Piano and Collaborative Piano, as well as the Keyboard Area Coordinator at the University of Arkansas- Fayetteville. During the summer of 2019, Kashiwagi will serve as one of the official pianists for the International Tuba and Euphonium Conference, host the Arkansas State Music Teachers Association Conference at the University of Arkansas, and work as a staff pianist at the Interlochen Intensive Institute before participating in The College Music Society’s International Conference in July.

Lee, HyeKyung
see composer bio above

Nordstrom, Stephen
Stephen Nordstrom is currently Assistant Professor of Violin at the University of Texas at El Paso. In addition to teaching violin and viola, he instructs courses in music history and musicianship, and assists with the UTEP Symphony Orchestra. He has been on the summer faculties of the renowned Interlochen Arts Camp in Michigan and Camp Encore/Coda in Maine, teaching violin and chamber music to young students from across the USA and the world. As an orchestral musician, he is currently Acting Principal Second Violin of the El Paso Symphony Orchestra and has served as concertmaster for music festivals in Italy and the USA. Dr. Nordstrom is an avid chamber musician as well, performing with ensembles in Italy, Austria, China, Canada, and throughout the USA. He actively performs on both violin and viola, recently presenting solo and chamber music recitals in Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, Colorado, and in Juarez, Mexico. In 2017, his CD recording of new works by composer and pianist Dominic Dousa entitled A Musical Portrait of the American Southwest was highly acclaimed in American Record Guide and Gramophone Magazine. Dr. Nordstrom is a frequent performer for The College Music Society as well, playing at multiple regional and national conferences in the past few years. He received a Bachelor of Music from the University of North Texas, and Master of Music, Artist Diploma, and Doctor of Musical Arts degrees from the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music.
Parker, Craig B.
Since 1982, Craig B. Parker has been on the faculty at Kansas State University, where he teaches music history and plays trumpet with the KSU Faculty Brass Quintet. Dr. Parker was a member of numerous ensembles, including the American Wind Symphony Orchestra, Spoleto (Italy) Festival Orchestra, Long Beach Symphony, and the Composers Brass Quintet. His research and performance interests center primarily on music since 1945 and on cornet music of Sousa’s era. In 2011, he received the Society for American Music Distinguished Service Citation “in recognition of his sustained contributions to the society and its appreciation for nurturing our national music.”

Phang, May
Praised by critics and audiences for her imaginative programming and compelling performances, pianist May Phang enjoys discovering and performing a wide range of repertoire from Bach and Liszt to Libby Larsen and Chen Yi. Described as “vibrant”, “colorful”, and “evocative,” May strives to deeply understand and bring fresh insights into the masterpieces of composers such as Beethoven and Chopin while equally committed to discovering and championing the works of today’s living composers. She premiered the works of Armando Bayolo, Jaroslaw Golembiowski, and Geoffrey Gordon, and also worked with composers such as Aaron Jay Kernis and Joan Tower. Her 2013 debut CD Travels through Time featured works centered around Mark Twain’s satirical A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur’s Court. Upcoming projects include major solo piano works by American composer Curt Cacioppo.

Currently the John Rabb Emison Professor of Creative and Performing Arts and Professor of Piano at DePauw University, Indiana, her prior teaching positions include Carroll University in Waukesha, Wisconsin, and the Wisconsin Conservatory of Music in Milwaukee. A former teaching artist with Young Audiences of Indiana and artist faculty at Interharmony Italy, May continues to frequently adjudicate competitions and present masterclasses nationally and internationally.

Solomon, Nanette Kaplan
Nanette Kaplan Solomon, pianist and Professor of Music Emerita from Slippery Rock University, performs frequently as soloist and chamber musician. She has performed at numerous national and international conferences on five continents. Dr. Solomon’s involvement with the works of women composers has led to invitations to perform lecture recitals at festivals and conferences throughout the USA. She has been a soloist with orchestras in Connecticut, New Jersey, Massachusetts, as well as featured artist with the Butler (PA), Youngstown and Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestras. Dr. Solomon has also performed at the Phillips Collection and the French Embassy in Washington, D.C., Wigmore Hall in London, the Lincoln Center Library in New York City, and the Mozarteum in Salzburg, Austria. Her four compact discs — Piano music of Nikolai Lopatnikoff (Laurel), Character Sketches and Sunbursts (Leonarda) and Badinage: Piano Music of Mana-Zucca (Albany) have received critical acclaim. Dr. Solomon received her early training as a scholarship student at the Juilliard School. She received a B.A. degree magna cum laude from Yale College, where she was elected to Phi Beta Kappa, an M.M. from the Yale School of Music, and a D.M.A. from Boston University.

Stoner, Kristen Lia
see composer bio above