



SCHOOL OF MUSIC

Presents

**Emily Dear, Trumpet  
Taiko Young, Piano**

April 29<sup>th</sup>, 2023

7:30 pm

PepsiCo Recital Hall

**Program**

L'esprit de la Trompette

James M. Stephenson  
(b. 1969)

Ridge-Runner

*Movement 1.*  
*Movement 2.*  
*Movement 3.*

Libby Larson  
(b. 1950)

Trumpet Songs

*I. Morning Opens*  
*II. To Home*  
*III. In Our Quiet*  
*IV. Hop and Toe*  
*V. Threaded*  
*VI. Breaking*

Jennifer Higdon  
(b. 1962)

Donna Dear, Piano

*Intermission*

Paradigms

Anthony Plog  
(b. 1947)

Sonatine  
Allegro moderato  
Andante  
Allegro vivace

Ronald Simpson  
(b. 1966)

Sebastian Marin, Trumpet  
Hayden Nicholson, Trumpet  
Hannah Baer, Trumpet  
Karson Beer, Trumpet

This recital is given in partial fulfillment of the requirements for a Bachelors of Arts in Music. Emily Dear is a student of Dr. Jon Burgess.

The use of recording equipment or taking photographs is prohibited.  
Please silence all electronic devices including watches, pagers, and phones.

## Program Notes

### *L'esprit de la Trompette* – James M. Stephenson

James M. Stephenson came late to his full-time composing career, having first earned a degree from the New England Conservatory in trumpet performance, and then going on to perform 17 seasons in the Naples Philharmonic in Florida. This path has made his voice truly individual, and his life's work more remarkable.

Written for a young trumpet player, Brittany Hendricks, this piece was a fundraising effort by Stephenson for Hendricks college tuition. At Richard Stoelzel's Grand Valley International Trumpet Seminar, Hendricks performed his new work and raising money for herself and two other students to attend university. *L'esprit* captures Brittany's spirit and all who donated money to her cause.

### *Ridge-Runner* – Libby Larson

Libby Larsen (b. 1950, Wilmington, Delaware) is one of America's most performed living composers. She has composed over 500 works including orchestra, opera, vocal and chamber music, symphonic winds, and band. Her work is widely recorded. An advocate for the music and musicians of our time, in 1973 Larsen co-founded the Minnesota Composers Forum, now the American Composer's Forum. Grammy Award winner and former holder of the Papamarkou Chair at John W. Kluge Center of the Library of Congress, Larsen has also held residencies with the Minnesota Orchestra, the Charlotte Symphony, and the Colorado Symphony. As Artistic Director of the John Duffy Institute for New Opera (2014-2020), she guides a faculty of practicing professional artists in nurturing and production of new opera by American Composers. Larsen's 2017 biography, *Libby Larsen: Composing an American Life*, Denise Von Glahn, author, is available from the University Illinois Press.

### Trumpet Songs – Jennifer Higdon

Jennifer Higdon is one of America's most acclaimed and most frequently performed living composers. She is a major figure in contemporary Classical music, receiving the 2010 Pulitzer Prize in Music for her *Violin Concerto*, a 2010 Grammy for her *Percussion Concerto*, a 2018 Grammy for her *Viola Concerto* and a 2020 Grammy for her *Harp Concerto*. In 2018, Higdon received the Nemmers Prize from Northwestern University which is given to contemporary classical composers of exceptional achievement who have significantly influenced the field of composition. Most recently, the recording of Higdon's *Percussion Concerto* was inducted into the Library of Congress National Recording Registry. Higdon enjoys several hundred performances a year of her works, and *blue cathedral* is today's most performed contemporary orchestral work, with more than 600 performances worldwide. Her works have been recorded on more than seventy CDs. Higdon's first opera, *Cold Mountain*, won the prestigious International Opera Award for Best World Premiere and the opera recording was nominated for 2 Grammy awards. Her music is published exclusively by Lawdon Press.

### Paradigms – Anthony Plog

The music of Anthony Plog has been performed in over 30 countries, and he has been the recipient of numerous grants and commissions. After beginning his career writing extensively for brass, he now works in many different musical forms. He has composed three children's operas, the first of which (*How the Trumpet Got Its Toot*) was premiered by the Utah Opera and Symphony. He completed a major tragic opera (*Spirits*) based on a Holocaust theme and recently finished a new opera about a drone operator suffering a nervous breakdown (*The Sacrifice*). Other new works include an oratorio about the first major environmental battle in the United States (*God's First Temples*), in versions for orchestra, symphonic band, and soprano song cycle; and a cantata using the stories of women who have recovered from sex trafficking, prostitution, and drug abuse (*Magdalene*).