

# PROGRAM

David Clary, trombone

Saturday, April 27, 2024

5:00 pm

PepsiCo Recital Hall

Ballade pour Trombone et Piano (1940)

Frank Martin  
(1890-1974)

Syuzanna Kaszo, piano

Variations on “Dona Nobis Pacem” by  
Palestrina (1977)

David Fetter  
(b. 1938)

Air et Final (1950)

Robert Planel (1908-1994)

Syuzanna Kaszo, piano

*Intermission*

Concerto for Alto Trombone and Piano  
(1763)

Georg Christoph Wagenseil (1715-1777)

*I. Adagio*

*II. Allegro assai*

Syuzanna Kaszo, piano

Radioactive (in the style of Pentatonix)  
(2013)

Imagine Dragons  
arr. by David & Albert Clary Jr.

Eden Agabs, violin  
Amanda Ochranek, violin  
Jasmine Ong, viola  
Grady O’Gara, cello  
Holt Lee, bass  
Zach Bourgeois, drumset

Shape of My Lucid Dreams (2023)

Sting (b. 1951), Juice WRLD (1998-2019)  
arr. by David & Albert Clary Jr.

Eden Agabs, violin  
Amanda Ochranek, violin  
Jasmine Ong, viola  
Grady O’Gara, cello  
Alfredo Ortiz, piano  
Holt Lee, bass  
Zach Bourgeois, drumset

# PROGRAM NOTES

## Ballade pour Trombone et Piano (1940)

Frank Martin (1890-1974)

Frank Martin and Arthur Honegger are the towering figures among Swiss composers of the twentieth century. Both hailed from Francophone Switzerland, both espoused a seriousness of purposes rooted in their Calvinist surroundings, and both excelled in large-scale works for chorus and orchestra that owed much to the example of Bach. At a time when Schoenberg's dodecaphonic method was known only to a few close disciples and initiates, Martin undertook a deep study of the technique in the early 1930s and adapted it to his own compositional needs. The results were triumphantly presented in his oratorio *Le Vin herbé* on the Tristan legend (1938-41), the work which first brought him to international attention. If his fame today mainly resides in this and other large-scale vocal works, especially the oratorio *Golgotha* (1945-8), he nevertheless brought forth a large body of superior instrumental music, of which the *Ballades*, one each for alto saxophone, flute, piano, trombone (or tenor saxophone), cello and viola with orchestral accompaniment, are supreme examples.

Martin's *Ballade* for trombone was commissioned for the 1940 Geneva Competition with the understanding that it should be no more than seven minutes long. This was the first time that the famous international competition had included the trombone among the competition instruments, and it seemed natural to commission a test piece from a local composer, even if largely unknown outside his native Switzerland. Martin, then in the process of composing *Le Vin herbé*, sought the advice of the trombonist of the *Orchestre de la Suisse Romande* to exploit the new techniques of trombone playing developed earlier in the century. The resultant version for trombone and piano was quickly recognized as a masterpiece at its première in 1940, and efforts were made to produce a version with orchestral accompaniment. Although Martin had written well for the orchestra before, he felt slightly unequal to this task and sought the help of his friend, the outstanding Franco-Swiss conductor Ernest Ansermet, to work out some of the details. The new version was completed in 1940 and immediately established itself in the concert repertoire, acting as a focal point and stimulus for later works for trombone and orchestra and generally being regarded as the work that "led the trombone into our own time."

## Variations on "Dona Nobis Pacem" by Palestrina (1977)

David Fetter (b. 1938)

David Fetter taught trombone at the Peabody Conservatory in Baltimore from 1970 to 2016. Also a composer, arranger, and publisher, his career as trombonist included two years as Assistant Trombone in the Cleveland Orchestra under George Szell and sixteen years, ten of them as Principal, in the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra under Sergiu Comissiona and David Zinman. Guest conductors in Cleveland included Pierre Boulez, Leonard Bernstein, Seiji Ozawa, Istvan Kertesz, and Bernard Haitink. Fetter has also been a member of the San Antonio Symphony, The National Ballet Orchestra in Washington, D.C., the Radio/Telefis Eireann Symphony Orchestra in Dublin, Ireland, and the U.S. Army Band "Pershing's Own." He has performed chamber music with the Theater Chamber Players of Washington, D.C. under Leon Fleisher and early music with *Musica Rara* in Baltimore, and he has been a soloist with the Eastman-Rochester Symphony Orchestra, the New Hampshire Music Festival Orchestra, the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra, and the U.S. Army Band.

Fetter holds a Bachelor of Music/Education degree with a Performer's Certificate from the Eastman School of Music, where he studied trombone with Emory Remington and was a member of the Eastman Wind Ensemble under Frederick Fennell. Also, he holds a Master's in musicology from the American University in Washington, D.C. He has conducted contemporary music and brass ensembles. His works have been recorded by leading soloists and are performed at colleges and universities and festivals in the U.S. and Europe.

"Dona nobis pacem" (Ecclesiastical Latin: [ˈdona ˈnobis ˈpatʃem], "Give us peace") is a round for three parts to a short Latin text from the Agnus Dei section of the Latin Mass. The melody has been passed orally. The round is part of many hymnals and songbooks. Beyond use at church, the round has been popular for secular quests for peace, such as the reunification of Germany, and been appropriated for many musical works.

# PROGRAM NOTES

## Air et Final (1950)

Robert Planel (1908-1994)

Robert Planel was a French composer, music pedagogue and violinist. Born in Montélimar, Planel was the son of the founder (1903) and director of the music school in Montélimar, Alphonse Planel (1869-1947),<sup>[1]</sup> who himself, from 1902 to 1947, was conductor of the Harmonie municipale "La Lyre" montilienne and also composer. Planel received violin lessons with René Chédécail, then 1st violinist of the Orchestre de l'Opéra national de Paris. From 1922 to 1933, he studied at the Conservatoire de Paris with, among others, Firmin Touche (1875-1957) (violin), Jean Gallon (1878-1959) (harmony), Georges Caussade (1873-1936) (counterpoint) and with Henri Büsser (1872-1973) and Paul Vidal (1863-1931) (musical composition). During his studies, he worked as a violinist in prominent cinemas in the French capital. In 1933, he won the prestigious Prix de Rome for his cantata *Idylle funambulesque*. As a result, he was able to study and work from 1934 to 1936 in Rome at the "Académie de France" in the Villa Medici.

As a composer, he wrote for various genres.

## Concerto for Alto Trombone and Piano (1763)

Georg Christoph Wagenseil (1715-1777)

Georg Christoph Wagenseil was an Austrian composer. He was born in Vienna, and became a favorite pupil of the Vienna court's Kapellmeister, Johann Joseph Fux. Wagenseil himself composed for the court from 1739 to his death. He also held positions as harpsichordist and organist. His pupils included Johann Baptist Schenk (who was to teach Ludwig van Beethoven), and Marie Antoinette. He traveled little, and died in Vienna having spent most of his life there. Wagenseil was a well-known musical figure in his day – both Joseph Haydn and Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart are known to have been familiar with his works. His early works are Baroque, while his later pieces are in the Classical style. He composed a number of operas, choral works, symphonies, concertos, chamber music and keyboard pieces.

The Concerto for Trombone, written in 1763 by Georg Christoph Wagenseil, is a piece in 2 movements for alto trombone and piano. It is the first concerto form solo work for the alto trombone and was written during a time when wide use of this instrument had been diminished from centuries past. The Concerto for Trombone helped mark the beginning of a time when the musical expressiveness of the trombone began to be noticed in chamber genres where such attention had been lacking in previous decades.

## Radioactive (in the style of Pentatonix) (2013)

Imagine Dragons

Imagine Dragons are an American pop rock band formed in 2008, based in Las Vegas, Nevada, and currently consists of lead singer Dan Reynolds, guitarist Wayne Sermon, bassist Ben McKee and drummer Daniel Platzman. The band first gained exposure with the release of their single "It's Time", followed by their debut album *Night Visions* (2012), which resulted in the chart-topping singles "Radioactive" and "Demons". Rolling Stone named "Radioactive", which held the record for most weeks charted on the Billboard Hot 100, the "biggest rock hit of the year". "Radioactive" is a song from their major-label debut EP *Continued Silence* and later on their debut studio album, *Night Visions*, as the opening track. Musically, "Radioactive" is an electronic rock and alternative rock song with elements of dubstep.

Pentatonix (abbreviated PTX) are an American a cappella group from Arlington, Texas, consisting of vocalists Scott Hoying, Mitch Grassi, Kirstin Maldonado, Matt Sallee, and Kevin Olusola. Characterized by their pop-style arrangements with vocal harmonies, basslines, riffing, percussion, and beatboxing, they produce cover versions of modern pop works or Christmas songs, sometimes in the form of medleys, along with original material. In March 2013, Pentatonix and violinist Lindsey Stirling released their cover of the Imagine Dragons song "Radioactive."

# PROGRAM NOTES

Shape of My Lucid Dreams (2023)

Sting (b. 1951), Juice WRLD (1998-2019)

Gordon Matthew Thomas Sumner CBE, known as Sting, is an English musician, activist and actor. He was the frontman, songwriter and bassist for new wave band the Police from 1977 until their breakup in 1986. He launched a solo career in 1985 and has included elements of rock, jazz, reggae, classical, new-age, and worldbeat in his music.

"Shape of My Heart" is a song by British musician Sting, released in August 1993 as the fifth single from his fourth solo album, *Ten Summoner's Tales* (1993). Despite failing to reach the top 50 in the UK upon its release, it has become a pop classic and one of Sting's works most closely associated with his solo career. The song's guitar riff was also sampled by many artists for their own works, including Juice Wrld on the worldwide hit "Lucid Dreams" (2018). Sting explained that through "Shape of My Heart", he wanted to tell the story of a "card player, a gambler who gambles not to win but to try to figure out something; to figure out some kind of mystical logic in luck, or chance; some kind of scientific, almost religious law."

Jarad Anthony Higgins, known professionally as Juice Wrld (pronounced "juice world"; stylized as Juice WRLD), was an American rapper, singer, and songwriter. Throughout his career of four years, he was a leading figure in the emo rap and SoundCloud rap genres which garnered mainstream attention during the mid-to-late 2010s. His stage name, which he stated represents "taking over the world", was derived from the crime thriller film *Juice* (1992).

"Lucid Dreams" (formerly "Lucid Dreams (Forget Me)")<sup>[2]</sup> is a song by American rapper Juice Wrld. It was officially released by Grade A Productions and Interscope Records on May 4, 2018, after previously being released on SoundCloud in June 2017. The song has over 2.3 billion streams on Spotify, being one of the most-streamed songs on the platform. In February 2022 the song was certified Diamond by RIAA for selling over 10 million units in the U.S. The song has since come to be regarded as Juice Wrld's signature song. In a June 2018 interview with *Lyrical Lemonade* discography, Juice Wrld stated the song was made to be a "therapy session" during a period of relationship problems he was encountering. In the lyrics, he describes the pain of a girl breaking up with him, and in the verse he relates back to the title: saying he has lucid dreams thinking of her.

