

Fall 2024 Music Tour

# Wind Symphony

of Concordia University Chicago

Conducted by Dr. Richard R. Fischer

*The Fred and Jane Wittlinger Endowed Chair in Music Performance*



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*Christ at the Center*

# welcome!

**Gift.** How does one accept a gift? There are so many answers to that question, but there are many gifts to consider at this moment. Arriving safely to this concert is reason alone to be grateful. Receiving concert programs from willing ushers, sensing the excitement among the audience members prior to the concert, watching the Wind Symphony members take their places, applauding as Dr. Fischer takes his place at the podium, anticipating the opening sound. There is a depth to this shared experience. It's a gift!

**Expression.** Artistry in music is a response to God's gift given to us

through his Son. You will hear it in the Wind Symphony and observe how the music affects them. The music will entertain and yet enlighten your thoughts and stir your souls to know that there is more than just a good feeling here. It is an expression of faith.

**Anticipation.** "Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen." (Hebrews 11:1). This scriptural verse is part of Concordia's University's theme of the year, "Standing Firm in the Faith." Through music, we get to share with the world that we unashamedly acknowledge the source of our gifts as we express

the message of God's eternal gift of salvation won for us through the merits of Christ on our behalf.

**Gratitude.** We are truly blessed by your presence here this evening. God gave us you—the audience—to listen and respond to the performance. This alone goes beyond the notes on the page.

Soli Deo Gloria!



*Charles J. Braun*

Arts Division  
Chair, Music  
Program Lead

## YOUR SUPPORT IS APPRECIATED!



Scan QR Code and donate to CUC's Wind Symphony program.

Your support contributes to an exceptional experience for CUC's current and future music students, including help with enabling our ensemble groups to travel nationally and internationally to share their musical gifts with the world to the glory of God. For this we are forever grateful and wholeheartedly thank you for your donation.

## LISTEN LIVE! CUCHICAGO.EDU/LIVE

**November 1**  
Wind Symphony  
Home Concert  
8 p.m., Chapel

**November 3**  
Kapelle Home Concert  
4 p.m., Chapel

**November 10**  
Chamber Orchestra  
Fall Concert  
7 p.m., Chapel

**December 6**  
University Band  
Christmas Concert  
8 p.m., Chapel

**December 7**  
Service of Lessons  
and Carols  
4 & 7 p.m., Chapel

**December 8**  
Service of Lessons  
and Carols  
4 p.m., Chapel

**Feb 28 - March 4**  
Wind Symphony  
Spring Tour

**March 5-9**  
Kapelle Spring Tour

**March 14**  
Wind Symphony  
Home Concert  
8 p.m., Chapel

**March 16**  
Kapelle Home Concert  
4 p.m., Chapel

**March 22-24**  
Chamber Orchestra  
Spring Tour

**March 28**  
University Band  
Concert  
8 p.m., Chapel

**April 6**  
Chamber Orchestra  
Concert  
7 p.m., Chapel

**April 27**  
Spring Music Festival  
7 p.m., Geiseman  
Auditorium

**June 28**  
University Band  
Patriotic Pops  
Concert  
6:30 p.m., Addison  
Pillars Lawn

For a complete listing of concerts at Concordia-Chicago, including those that will be live-streamed, please visit [CUChicago.edu/music](http://CUChicago.edu/music). If you would like to receive emails about all upcoming concerts, send your request to [music@CUChicago.edu](mailto:music@CUChicago.edu). If you would like to catch another performance of this evening's program, watch our home concert live on the web on November 1 at 8 p.m. CDT. You may view more musical events, either live or on demand, at [CUChicago.edu/live](http://CUChicago.edu/live).

# program

Conducted by Dr. Richard R. Fischer  
The Fred and Jane Wittlinger Endowed Chair in Music Performance

**Fortress of the Rose (2006)** . . . . . Reber Clark (b. 1955)  
Commissioned by the Concordia University Chicago Wind Symphony

**Song for Silent Voices (2018)** . . . . . Wayne Oquin (b. 1977)

**March of the Trolls from Lyric Suite, op. 54 (1891/2010)** . . . . . Edvard Grieg (1843-1907)  
arr. Brian Beck

**Second Suite for Military Band (1911)**. . . . . Gustav Holst (1874-1934)  
I. "March: Morris Dance, Swansea Town, Claudy Banks"  
II. "Song Without Words, 'I'll Love My Love"  
III. "Song of the Blacksmith"  
IV. "Fantasia on the Dargason"

**Psalm 150 (2015)**. . . . . Jack Stamp (b. 1954)  
Joel Freiberg, Organ

*- intermission -*

*Free-will offering to support the Concordia University Chicago Wind Symphony*

**Meridian (2011)** . . . . . Ola Gjeilo (b. 1978)  
Olivia Wrolstad, piano

**Gilded Morning (2023)** . . . . . John Wasson (b. 1956)

**Redemption (2011)** . . . . . Rossano Galante (b. 1967)

**Jitterbug! (2018)** . . . . . Robert Buckley (b. 1946)

**How to Train Your Dragon (2010/2017)**. . . . . John Powell (b. 1963)  
arr. Ton van Grevenbroek



# program notes

## FORTRESS OF THE ROSE BY REBER CLARK

*Fortress of the Rose* was commissioned by the Concordia University Chicago Wind Symphony. It was dedicated to my wife Lee Ann; *Ein' Feste Burg* was our wedding processional.

The work is a fantasy on *Ein' Feste Burg* (*A Mighty Fortress is Our God*) by Martin Luther (1483-1546) and *Es ist ein' Ros' entsprungen* (*Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming*), a 16th-century traditional German melody.

This composition is inspired by Luther's perseverance during increasingly dangerous, yet critically important periods of his life and work. As the reigning authority sought to imprison and silence Luther (through the Edict of Worms in which Luther was declared an outlaw who could be killed by anyone without persecution), Frederick III (the "Wise") Elector of Saxony

"kidnapped" him (probably with Luther's consent) and stashed him at the Wartburg Castle in Eisenach where Luther completed, in 11 weeks, his translation of the New Testament from the Greek to what would become New High German. Just after publishing his definitive edition of *Ein' Feste Burg*, Luther moved to Coburg castle in the Bavarian wilderness a few miles from the Augsburg Diet. During this time, as the Plague arrived in Coburg, Luther created his sigil, the Luther Rose, which encapsulated his theology. His departure from Coburg coincided with the arrival in 1531 of what would later be named Halley's Comet.

*Notes by the composer*

## SONG FOR SILENT VOICES BY WAYNE OQUIN

I love composing for the human voice. Nothing is more musically meaningful than finding the perfect poem, however unknown, and letting it transport me to worlds of sound I otherwise might not have considered.

For me, the process of setting any text usually involves culling from the countless ways a stanza could be sung to find the one I feel best captures the essence of the written word. Syllables, vowels and consonants – each element is given its own unique melodic shape. Without fail, the music adds more meaning.

In October 2017, I began an unaccompanied choral work to honor the memory of a remarkable man, my long-time friend, Herbert M. Lloyd, MD. The text consisted of one word: Alleluia. I became fascinated with the idea of setting this single utterance hundreds of ways, each repetition portraying some new element of this ancient sacred expression.

Even before I knew the ending or how it would arrive, I was certain I wanted to explore an instrumental version. Beyond the affirmative title, beyond the emphatic nature of the repetitive lyric – alleluia...alleluia – the slow

harmonic rhythm in the opening, the songlike simplicity of the themes, the long soaring lines of the climax – at times as many as eight singing simultaneously – all urged me to undertake a transcription for many colors of the wind ensemble.

Continually I'm drawn to music's power to connect, its gift of going beyond words. To enter music, this seemingly separate world of pitches, harmonies, rhythms and textures, is to plunge more deeply into life itself. How true of the current work: unresolved dissonances speaking to our collective humanity in all of its beauty and many imperfections; frequent modulations reflecting a world of constant change; a single voice signifying child-like innocence; the final diminuendo depicting life's brevity. Words alone would be inadequate.

...My hope is that this music somehow merges grief and gratitude; the quiet void from a life lost and the thankfulness for times shared.

*Notes by the composer*

## MERIDIAN BY OLA GJEILO

*Meridian* comes across very much out of a love for ostinato, or groove-based, music. Having grown up with the often world-music-infused jazz of Keith Jarrett and Jan Garbarek, as well as other influences such as Shostakovich symphonies, I've been easily drawn to having a consistent rhythmic drive in my music. Also, my love of 7/8 meter pops out in a couple of places.

*Notes by the composer*



## GILDED MORNING BY JOHN WASSON

John Wasson was commissioned by the Indiana Bandmasters Association to create a work based upon the hymn *When Morning Gilds the Skies*, also commonly known by its refrain text, “*May Jesus Christ Be Praised.*”

Mr. Wasson’s goal in composing the work was to paint a musical depiction of the unfolding of the day, with its various elements joining together to accomplish the task of “letting the Lord be praised” in all things. To do so, Mr. Wasson utilized the hymn tune throughout the work, starting with simple settings for solo and ensemble passages, moving through various transformations of the theme in whole and in fragmented usage, and building to a final chorale-based statement of the theme in majestic fashion.

*Notes from the publisher*

# program notes



## JITTERBUG! ROBERT BUCKLEY

In preparation for composing this piece, Robert Buckley studied numerous recordings of the major swing bands of the 1930s and 1940s. His intention was to capture the essence of the jazz age with an original piece of music. Each of the swing bands had their own “signature” sounds, which were immediately recognizable to their flocks of enthusiastic fans. This composition puts these various sounds and rhythms together in homage to a vibrant and innovative time in American music.

*Notes from the publisher*



## WHO PUTS HIS TRUST IN GOD MOST JUST

Who puts his trust  
In God most just  
Hath built his house securely;  
He who relies  
On Jesus Christ,  
Shall reach His heav'n most surely.

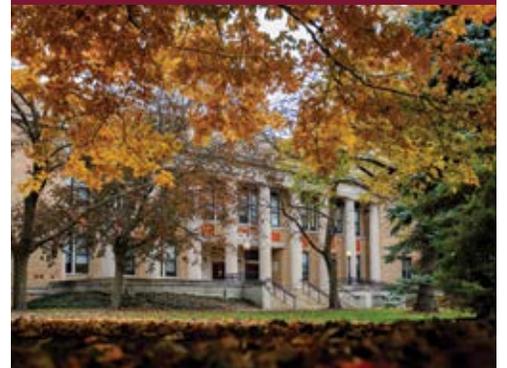
Then fixed on Thee  
My trust shall be,  
For Thy truth cannot alter;  
While mine Thou art  
Nor death's worst smart  
Shall make my courage falter.

*- Joachim Magdeburg*

## ALMA MATER

PAUL MANZ, '41

Hail to thee, our Alma Mater!  
Hail to thee, Maroon and Gold!  
Here we stand, thy sons and daughters,  
Thinking back to days of old—  
Days of joy and happy meetings,  
Days of friendship and of love.  
As we stand before thy Pillars,  
Hail, Concordia! Hail!





# Wind Symphony

The Concordia University Chicago Wind Symphony has performed in 43 states, Canada, Europe, Asia and South Africa, and enjoys an unparalleled reputation among small liberal arts institutions. Since the Wind Symphony began touring internationally, they have performed concerts in Germany, the Czech Republic, Poland, Hungary and Slovakia. In May 2005, 2009 and 2013, the ensemble performed concerts in 10 cities in China, including Shanghai and Beijing. In May 2017, the Wind Symphony toured South Africa where they performed Johan de Meij's African Harmony, commissioned by the group especially for their tour. Additionally, the Wind Symphony has played major concerts at Carnegie Hall, Chicago's Symphony Center, the Meyerson Center in Dallas, the Weidner Center at University of Wisconsin-Green Bay, Uihlein Hall at the Marcus Center in Milwaukee, the Saginaw Civic Center, and the Lied Center for Performing Arts in Lincoln, NE.

The Wind Symphony has commissioned and premiered numerous wind compositions and produced 16 acclaimed recordings of sacred wind repertoire. These recordings have been played on National Public Radio; WFMT, the classical station in Chicago; The Lutheran Hour; almost daily on the Moody Bible Network in 40 cities throughout the United States; and streaming on Spotify. They performed to multiple standing ovations as the showcase ensemble at the New York City Wind Band Festival at Carnegie Hall in 2014 and 2019.

If you would like the Wind Symphony to perform at your church on an upcoming tour, please contact tour manager Rachel Leininger at [Rachel.Leininger@CUChicago.edu](mailto:Rachel.Leininger@CUChicago.edu) or 708-209-3524.



# wind symphony members

+ Denotes Section Chair



**Flute**  
Melanie  
Goman  
Chicago, IL  
Secondary Education,  
English; Music minor



**Flute**  
Jennifer  
Nelson  
Chicago, IL



**Flute**  
Emily  
Weinstock  
Minooka, IL  
Elementary Education



**Flute/Piccolo+**  
Kierra  
Mohalley  
Racine, WI  
K-12 Art & Spanish  
Education



**Oboe**  
Wendy  
Norris  
Oak Park, IL



**Clarinet**  
Noah  
Hartwig  
Iowa City, IA  
Pre-Seminary



**Clarinet**  
Mike  
Kahles  
Elmhurst, IL



**Clarinet+**  
Micheala  
Tuminello  
Oak Park, IL



**Bass Clarinet**  
David  
Soro  
Oak Park, IL



**Bassoon**  
Jennifer  
Youngdahl-Griffin  
Villa Park, IL



**Alto Saxophone+**  
Josiah  
Gerlach  
Watertown, WI  
Music Education, LTE



**Alto Saxophone**  
Cody  
Stocker  
River Forest, IL



**Tenor Saxophone**  
Anthony  
Pullano  
Park Ridge, IL  
Political Science



**French Horn**  
Owen  
Kaiser  
Fort Wayne, IN  
Music, Director of  
Parish Music



**French Horn**  
Elijah  
Kohlmeier  
Wauwatosa, WI  
English, Pre-Seminary



**French Horn+**  
Karolina  
Zawitkowska  
Wood Dale, IL  
Music Education



**Trumpet**  
Nathan  
Goman  
Chicago, IL  
Mathematics



**Trumpet**  
Andrew  
Kuhnau  
Watertown, MN  
Music Education, LTE



**Trumpet**  
Christian  
Salemink  
St. Louis, MO  
Christian Ministries



**Trumpet+**  
Nicholas  
Vukalovich  
Rockford, IL  
Theology



**Trombone**  
Noah  
Clark  
St. Louis, MO  
English



**Trombone+**  
Natasha  
Dalley  
Rochester, MN  
Spanish



**Euphonium**  
Emma  
Milam  
Slinger, WI  
English



**Euphonium**  
Simeon  
Roberts  
Grand Rapids, MI  
Secondary Education,  
History, LTE



**Euphonium+**  
Nathan  
Stringer  
Milwaukee, WI  
Biology



**Tuba**  
August  
Hoover  
Fort Wayne, IN  
Director of Christian  
Education



**Tuba+**  
Nathaniel  
Schmidt  
Sunbury, OH  
Music Education, LTE



**Tuba**  
Isaiah  
Tietz  
Fort Wayne, IN  
Secondary Ed- English,  
LTE



**Percussion**  
Timothy  
Burmann  
Armada, MI  
Director of Parish Music



**Percussion**  
Allison  
Cross  
Marion, IA  
Deaconess Program



**Percussion**  
Ben  
Harrison  
South Burlington, VT  
Music



**Percussion+**  
Erika  
Johnson  
Waukesha, WI  
Music Education, LTE



**Percussion/Bass**  
Collin  
Pease  
Elmwood Park, IL  
Music Education



**Organ**  
Joel  
Freiberg  
Racine, MN  
Director of Parish Music



**Piano**  
Olivia  
Wrolstad  
Watertown, WI  
Music



**Band Staff:**

Noah Clark  
Allison Cross  
Erika Johnson  
Collin Pease

**Student Tour  
Manager:**

Elijah Kohlmeier

**Devotion**

**Coordinator:**  
Noah Hartwig

**Social Committee:**

Ben Harrison  
Augie Hoover

## music department faculty and staff

### FULL-TIME FACULTY

**Maurice Boyer, DMA**  
University of Maryland  
College Park, MD

**Charles P. Brown, DMA**  
University of Arizona  
Tucson, AZ

**Richard R. Fischer, DMA**  
Michigan State University  
East Lansing, MI

**Jonathan Stahlke, DMA**  
University of Cincinnati  
College-Conservatory of Music  
Cincinnati, OH

**Emily Woock, MME, MSM**  
Anderson University  
Anderson, IN  
University of Notre Dame  
South Bend, IN

### EMERITI FACULTY

**Evangeline Rimbach, PhD**  
Eastman School of Music  
University of Rochester, NY

**Steven Wentz, DMus**  
Northwestern University  
Evanston, IL

### STAFF

**ARTS ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT**  
**Ambria Jones, ALM**  
Harvard University

**MUSIC TOUR MANAGER**  
**Rachel Leininger, BA**  
Concordia University Chicago

### ADJUNCT FACULTY

Mark Anderson, Cello  
Alyssa Arrigo, Piano  
Meg Busse, Oboe  
Becky Coffman, Violin, Viola  
Nathalie Colas, Voice  
Robert Everson, Percussion  
Cynthia Fudala, Flute  
Paul Henry, Guitar  
Kuang-Hao Huang, Piano  
Jeffrey Kleinsorge, Piano Prep  
Adrian Metzger, Piano Prep  
Susan Nelson, Voice, Laudate  
Chris O'Hara, Trumpet  
Alex Piela, Jazz Band,  
Jazz Improvisation  
James Robinson-Parran, Piano  
Jeremy Ruthrauff, Saxophone  
Dianne Ryan, Bassoon  
Nora Shaffer, Clarinet  
Julie Spring, Harp  
Thomas Stark, Trombone  
Christine Steyer, Voice  
Peter Stigdon, Männerchor  
Katrina Sudman, Piano Prep  
John Tuck, Bass  
Serena Voltz, Euphonium, Tuba

## MISSION STATEMENT

The Music Department at Concordia University Chicago recognizes that music is a gift of God and a means through which all people can participate in the richness of the human experience. As a cultural expression that sheds light on both the individual and society, music is an essential component of a liberal arts education.

In accordance with these beliefs, the department fulfills the University mission by forming musicians who will be servant leaders and advocates for the transformative power of music in church, school and community. The department provides Concordia-Chicago students a variety of opportunities to study and perform music, enabling their lifelong growth and involvement in the arts, while enriching the larger community.

# about the conductor



**DR. RICHARD FISCHER,** the Fred and Jane Wittlinger Endowed Chair for Music Performance, is in his

51st year as director of bands at Concordia University Chicago, River Forest, IL. Dr. Fischer conducts the Wind Symphony and University Band, and also teaches basic and advanced-level conducting courses. He holds the Bachelor of Music Education and Master of Music degrees from DePaul University, and the Doctor of Musical Arts degree from Michigan State University where he studied under Eugene Corporon.

Dr. Fischer and the Wind Symphony have performed concerts in almost every state in the United States and in Canada, Europe, Asia and South Africa. The Wind Symphony has had the honor of performing at many

music festivals and conferences including the College Band Directors National Association (CBDNA), the Illinois Music Educators Conference (ILMEA), and numerous times at convocations of the Lutheran Education Association (LEA). Having performed to multiple standing ovations at Carnegie Hall in 2014, the Wind Symphony was honored to again be invited to be the showcase ensemble for the New York City Wind Band Festival at Carnegie Hall in March 2019.

Under Dr. Fischer's direction, the Wind Symphony has commissioned, premiered and recorded numerous wind band compositions, most notably the U.S. premiere of Johan de Meij's *The Lord of the Rings* in the fall of 1989. They have recorded 16 compact discs (over 150 works) of sacred wind music. The Wind Symphony's most recent recording, *Let My Love Be Heard*, features both sacred and secular music.

Dr. Fischer is in frequent demand as a presenter, guest conductor,

clinician and adjudicator in the United States, Canada, South Africa, Japan and Australia. In 1994, he was named to the "A Team" of University Professors by the Chicago Tribune. Dr. Fischer has been honored to present and guest conduct at local universities in Nagoya, Japan in December four times since 2016. Since 2004, he has conducted the LCMS National Youth Gathering Wind Symphony seven times. In May 2018, Dr. Fischer gave the keynote address at the national convention of the Association for Concert Bands held in Buffalo, NY.

Dr. Fischer's professional affiliations include the College Band Director National Association, World Association for Symphonic Bands and Ensembles, National Association for Music Educators, Illinois Music Educators Association, and the National Band Association. He and his wife Kathy (Kolb BA '77) reside in River Forest, IL, and have three grown children: Joy, Julie and Jonathan.



At Concordia University Chicago, music ensembles like the Wind Symphony, Kapelle and Chamber Orchestra are an important foundation of a formative student experience and our distinctive Lutheran identity. Your generous philanthropic gifts provide the fiscal agility that makes it possible to bring hope and joy through music to audiences on our campus and across the globe.



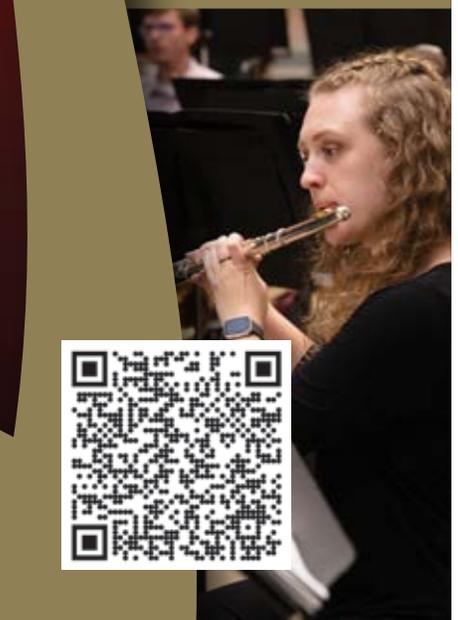
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Christ at the Center

## THE WIND SYMPHONY FALL 2024 MUSIC TOUR CONCERTS

### Sheboygan, WI

Friday, October 25 | 7p.m.

Trinity Lutheran  
Church & School  
824 Wisconsin Ave.  
[trinitysheboygan.org](https://trinitysheboygan.org)

### Lake Forest, IL

Sunday, October 27 | 4 p.m.

Faith Lutheran Church  
680 W. Deerpath Rd.  
[faithlakeforest.org](https://faithlakeforest.org)

### West Allis, WI

Saturday, October 26 | 7p.m.

St. Paul's Lutheran  
Church & School  
7821 W. Lincoln Ave.  
[splcwa.org](https://splcwa.org)

### Home Concert River Forest, IL

Friday, November 1 | 8p.m.

Chapel of Our Lord  
[CUChicago.edu/WindSymphony](https://CUChicago.edu/WindSymphony)