

University of Toronto Wind Symphony: Ontario Pictures

Pratik Gandhi, conductor

Friday, October 20, 2023 at 7:30 pm | MacMillan Theatre, 80 Queen's Park, Toronto

PROGRAM

Skyline		Evan Hammell* (b. 1993)
Suite of Miniature Dances		Louis Applebaum* (1918-2000)
I. II. IV. V. VI. VII. VIII.	Promenade I Coranto Gavotte Promenade II Gigue Sarabande Menuet Valse	
River Valley Sketches		Matthew Donnelly (b. 1986)
Couchiching Suite		John Herberman* (b. 1953)
. . .	Five Foot March Green Shadows in the Woods White Water, Grey Rocks	
Ontario Pictures		Howard Oable (1000-2010)
I. II. III.	Downbound from Thunder Bay Point Pelee Old Fort Henry	Howard Cable (1920-2016)
Intermission		

We wish to acknowledge this land on which the University of Toronto operates. For thousands of years it has been the traditional land of the Huron-Wendat, the Seneca, and the Mississaugas of the Credit. Today, this meeting place is still the home to many Indigenous people from across Turtle Island and we are grateful to have the opportunity to work on this land.

As part of the Faculty's commitment to improving Indigenous inclusion, we call upon all members of our community to start/continue their personal journeys towards understanding and acknowledging Indigenous peoples' histories, truths and cultures. Visit indigenous.utoronto.ca to learn more.

Fantasia

Lyric Essay

J. Scott Irvine* (b. 1953)

Donald Coakley (1934-2022)

Lake Superior Suite

Cait Nishimura* (b. 1991)

I. Pancake Bay

- II. Pukaskwa
- III. Sleeping Giant
- IV. Neys
- V. Agawa Bay

* asterisks denote University of Toronto alumni

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

PERFORMANCE COLLECTION

Karen Wiseman, librarian; Nicole Magirias, student library assistant

TEACHING ASSISTANTS

Michael Fedyshyn, *trumpet*; Sophie Lanthier, *flute*; Emerald Sun, *clarinet*; Chien Wong, *percussion*

UPCOMING WIND SYMPHONY PERFORMANCES AT THE FACULTY OF MUSIC

Friday, December 8, 2023 at 7:30 pm University of Toronto Wind Symphony presents *Fantasia* MacMillan Theatre | <u>BUY TICKETS</u> music.utoronto.ca

Friday, February 9, 2024 at 7:30 pm University of Toronto Wind Symphony presents *To the Stars* MacMillan Theatre | <u>BUY TICKETS</u> music.utoronto.ca

Friday, April 5, 2024 at 7:30 pm University of Toronto Wind Symphony presents *Earth, Water, Sun, Wind* MacMillan Theatre | <u>BUY TICKETS</u> music.utoronto.ca

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO WIND SYMPHONY

Pratik Gandhi, conductor

Flutes

Josh Chong Sophia Guo Isabella Ignacio Taylor Kruuv Naomi Lobo Anwen Robertson Lucy Zuo

Piccolos

Josh Chong Lucy Zuo

Oboes

Jasmine Noone Zoe Yang

Bassoons

Rachel Chen Kira Greenlees Ruth Yeo

E-flat Clarinet Olivia Van Alebeek

Clarinets

Eliza Abbott Cheng Cheng Crystal Chong Felicity Quadrini Emma Rondilla Christine Suh Sophia Stellato * Tom Chuen Tsang Olivia Van Alebeek

Bass Clarinet

Angela Lin

Contrabass Clarinet Erik Kamstra † Alto Saxophones Charlotte Chau Chantelle Tom-Ying

Tenor Saxophone Emmalin Pan

Baritone Saxophone Will Carriere

Trumpets

Sophia Franc Griffin Hook * Marten Humke-Weber Tamsin Spiller Charlie Steggles Kevin Zhao

Horns

Amanda Bolger † Ethan Chialtas † Piper Shiels † Ilinca Stafie †

Trombones

Abellia Chan Kenzie Ford Madeline James

Bass Trombone Rebecca Plante **Euphoniums** Nathaniel Aszmies Duncan MacFarlane †

Tubas Brooklynn Williams Eric Zhang

Double Bass Anthony Golubev

Piano Phoebe Lin

Percussion

Elyssa Arde Jerry Yuan Yue Yin Zhang Randall Chaves Camacho † Matthew Magosci † Chien Wong †

* ensemble managers † guest musicians

PROGRAM NOTES

The University of Toronto Wind Symphony and director Pratik Gandhi present a concert of works by Ontario composers, depicting places and scenes in Ontario.

Skyline

Skyline is composer Evan Hammell's impression of Toronto. Having grown up in PEI, Hammell was struck by the many contradictions the city presents daily—"anxiousness and coolness, order and chaos, gracefulness and rambunctiousness"—and he uses a variety of layers and techniques to depict these contradictions in the music. *Skyline* was premiered on December 1, 2018 by Dr. Gillian MacKay and the University of Toronto Wind Ensemble.

Suite of Miniature Dances

Louis Applebaum helped establish several of Canada's important cultural institutions, among them the Stratford Festival, for which he was the inaugural music director. The eight miniatures in this suite were taken from the incidental music composed by Applebaum for a production of *All's Well That Ends Well* in the Festival's debut season in 1953—a production which featured Sir Alec Guinness in the lead role! The music was originally written for a small group of seven musicians but was re-orchestrated by the composer for symphonic band in 1964 and further revised for publication in 1993.

River Valley Sketches

Composer Matthew Donnelly took inspiration for this piece from his adopted hometown of New Hamburg, Ontario, and the river Nith that runs through it. The music depicts various scenes, from the river rushing over a dam, to a serene winter sunrise, to the bustle of the town centre. Donnelly also looked to the homeland of the Nith's namesake, infusing elements of Scottish music throughout the work. *River Valley Sketches* was the first place winner of the 2013 Canadian Band Association Composition Competition (since renamed the Howard Cable Memorial Prize in Composition).

Couchiching Suite

Couchiching Suite was commissioned by the National Music Camp of Canada, which for over 50 years has been bringing together young musicians every summer at Camp Wahanowin, on the shores of Lake Couchiching. Written in 1989, the piece was designed to present a variety of challenges to the talented musicians at the camp.

Ontario Pictures

Not only was 1986 the year that Vancouver hosted the World Exposition (Expo '86), it was also designated by the Canadian Music Centre and celebrated by organizations across the country as the International Year of Canadian Music. That year, supported by funding from the Ontario Arts Council, the Northdale Concert Band commissioned six composers to compose new works for them to perform at the Ontario and Canada pavilions at Expo '86. Perhaps the most famous of these is Howard Cable's *Ontario Pictures*, a triptych of scenes from around the province. Cable was inspired by the stories and traditions of lumber shippers in Thunder Bay, the peaceful

flora and vibrant fauna of Point Pelee, and the history of Fort Henry in Kingston—as well as a personal connection: one of Cable's ancestors was stationed there.

Fantasia

Composer and tuba legend J. Scott Irvine wrote the *Fantasia* on a commission from the Scarborough Concert Band in 1981. At the time, Irvine was studying music education part time here at the Faculty of Music, freelancing regularly, and taking composition lessons with Dr. Samuel Dolin at the Royal Conservatory. Dr. Dolin introduced him to the work of Ernő Lendvai, a mathematician who analyzed symmetry and other mathematical concepts in the music of Béla Bartók. Irvine was intrigued by Lendvai's concept of the "alpha" chord, a symmetrical collection of eight pitches, and its extension, the "super alpha" chord, a twelve-pitch set which forms the basis for this work. The *Fantasia* was premiered on March 27, 1983 by Stephen Chenette and the University of Toronto Concert Band (the former name of the Wind Symphony).

Lyric Essay

Lyric Essay is one of the most widely performed Canadian works for band. It was commissioned in 1978 by Bliss Carman Senior Public School, one of many thriving band programs in what was then the Scarborough Board of Education, for which composer Donald Coakley was the long-time assistant coordinator of music. The work exhibits a strong influence from Coakley's principal composition teacher, Vincent Persichetti, particularly in its harmonies and orchestration.

Lake Superior Suite

Cait Nishimura composed each of the five moments of this suite to depict the sights, feelings, and memories of five different places on the north shore of Lake Superior that she visited on a camping trip in the summer of 2017. Each of the places is in a different national or provincial park, and each incorporates elements of the natural environment as well as personal impressions. Beginning with the gently swirling waters of Pancake Bay, the music goes on to present the jagged terrain of Pukaskwa and then the majestic Sleeping Giant landform. For Neys, the former site of an internment camp for Japanese Canadians during World War II, a solo saxophone plays a mournful melody before being gradually joined by the full ensemble in a cry of grief and anguish. The finale combines the calmness of the water at Agawa Bay with a bittersweet reflection on the journey as a whole. *Lake Superior Suite* was premiered on February 3, 2018 by Dr. Gillian MacKay and the University of Toronto Wind Ensemble.

BIOGRAPHY

Pratik Gandhi (he/him) is an award-winning freelance conductor and researcher based in Toronto. He is a sessional lecturer at the University of Toronto Faculty of Music, where he directs the Wind Symphony. He is in his tenth season as music director of the Rouge River Winds and was the founding music director of Soup Can Theatre. In addition to regularly guest conducting and adjudicating bands and orchestras, Pratik is active in several organizations that support music educators, most notably the Ontario Band Association. Since 2017, he has also served as Vice-Chair of the Concert Band Division of MusicFest Canada.

Pratik is currently a doctoral student at York University, where his research, supported in part by an Ontario Graduate Scholarship, investigates issues of equity and representation among wind band composers in Canada. Pratik received a B.Mus. in music education and an M.Mus. in conducting from the University of Western Ontario, where he studied conducting with Colleen Richardson, Jerome Summers, and James McKay, and percussion with Jill Ball.