Still Breathing: The University of Delaware School of Music Composer-Performer Collective

Monday, December 11, 2023
8:00 PM
Gore Recital Hall
Roselle Center for the Arts
Resonance (2023) ............................................. Aaron McCloskey (b. 2004)
Austin Perry, bassoon
Aaron McCloskey, piano
Aidan Dworkin, percussion

Prelude and Capriccio in G Minor (2023) ................. Will Doyle (b. 2004)
Will Doyle, piano

Dysnomia (2023) ............................................. Angelina Boback (b. 2004)
Robert Strauss, flutes
Yoshiaki Onishi, clarinet

Quiet In The Storm (2023) ..................................... Lillian Woulfe (b. 2005)
Robert Strauss, alto flute
Yoshiaki Onishi, clarinet

Yoshiaki Onishi, clarinet
Robert Strauss, alto flute

----------------- Intermission -----------------
Bagatelle (2023) ................................................................. R. L. Aurora (b. 2002)
   Lila Wright, violin
   Josh Corwin, viola
   Ben Holcomb, cello

Reminiscence (2023) ............................................................. Ike Eichenberg (b. 2001)
   Cody Weston Cheadle, clarinet
   Yoshiaki Onishi, bass clarinet

Western Dealings ............................................................. Cody Weston Cheadle (b. 2000)
   I. The Sun, the Plains, and You
   II. Kiss and Kick
   III. Wind Dwellers
   IV. My Colt’s Bigger than Yours
   V. As Long As There’s a Sunset…

   Yukai Chen, Andrew Dickinson, Cody Weston Cheadle,
   Jessica Ryan, Yoshiaki Onishi, Kurt Hammen, Michael Fascetta,
   clarinets

   Eric Martinez, conductor
Resonance – Aaron McCloskey

Resonance

/rez-nən(t)s//

Noun

1. The power to evoke enduring images, memories, and emotions.

– Aaron McCloskey

About the Composer

Aaron McCloskey is a second-year composition student at the University of Delaware with a minor in music management, along with studying piano with Professor Delbeau. He composes for a wide variety of instruments and styles, looking to expand his compositional and harmonic language through his time at UD.

Prelude and Capriccio in G Minor – Will Doyle

Prelude and Capriccio in G minor is a two movement non-programmatic work written as an exercise of motivic development and a venture towards more technically ambitious piano writing. Particularly with the Capriccio, texture and form serve to distinguish the work as uniquely difficult compared to other works I’ve written for piano, while nevertheless idiomatic for the instrument and highly rewarding for the player.

– Will Doyle

About the Composer

Will Doyle is a sophomore composition major from Townsend, Delaware. He first began composing four years ago in his sophomore year of high school, creating miniature solo and chamber works inspired by and in the style of the music of such video game composers as Hajime Wakai, Kinuyo Yamashita, Koji Kondo, Hirokazu Tanaka, Yasunori Mitsuda, and Austin Wintory. He has since progressed to
writing solo and chamber works that take influence from French Impressionism, baroque counterpoint, modernism, jazz, modern Japanese music, bossa nova, and anything else he happens to be listening to at the moment. Post-college, he aspires to write music for video games; arrange for marching band and acapella groups; write, record, and produce songs for other artists; and perform as a pianist, singer, and percussionist.

**Dysnomia – Angelina Boback** (b. 2004)

Dysnomia is the inability of finding the right words to express something. This concept is used by Angelina to express the feelings of confusion and being overwhelmed, the difficulty of explaining how you feel and the confusion of not knowing it yourself because too many things are happening all at once.

– Angelina Boback

**About the Composer**

Angelina Boback is a first year student in the Composition Program of University of Delaware. She grew up in Italy where she started studying music at the age of 8 years old. She began to compose music during high school and decided to study composition in University.

**Quiet In The Storm – Lillian Woulfe**

*Quiet In The Storm* tells the story of a child watching a raging storm from the comfort and safety of their own home. The piece begins with a peaceful, sunny setting, before darkness soon rolls in and provides a sense of danger. As the rain begins, and the storm builds, there is an underlying melody of safety that separates the listener from the intensity. The storm reaches an eventful climax, but soon the rain dies down to a drizzle and the listener is again reminded of the peaceful melody heard in the beginning. This piece was inspired by the composer's longing for the sense of comfort and belonging she felt when she was a child, a feeling she misses now that she has moved out of her childhood home. She hopes to capture the nostalgia for the memory she bases this piece off of.

– Lillian Woulfe
About the Composer

Lillian Woulfe is a freshman composition major here at the University of Delaware. She has been composing throughout her high school career, drawing inspiration from the concert music she performed in her high school wind ensemble. She came to the University of Delaware with an interest in film soundtrack composition and large ensemble composition, but has taken an interest in chamber music as well. Her music is influenced by her career as a flutist.

The Courting of Birds – Scott Eastman Andrews Jr.

All music has a story, and The Courting of Birds takes you on the journey of two little birds whose romance takes them to both beautiful and dangerous places. From their first encounter, to budding romance and a flight from danger, this tale is a joint effort between the music and your own imagination, so imagine away!

– Scott Eastman Andrews Jr.

About the Composer

Scott is enjoying his first year as part of the UD composition program and is excited for you to hear the first piece written as part of his education here. While he is an aspiring composer, he is also a vocalist, avid storyteller and theater enthusiast, all three of which he hopes to explore through the avenue of music, as the joining of music and narrative is his greatest interest. He hopes to create unique and interesting musical works that inspire the human mind and heart alike.
Bagatelle – R. L. Aurora

I wrote this piece when there was a heavy wave of anti-trans legislation being presented and passed in state courts. In the weeks before I started writing, there were multiple stories of trans people being murdered and forcibly detransitioned coming out. This piece is a representation of the fear and pain felt by all queer people, as well as the fleeting joy that's always interrupted by tragedy. Thankfully, most of this legislation was struck down by District Attorneys in multiple states. We must remember to always fight for human rights, whenever they're threatened, no matter for whom.

– R. L. Aurora

About the Composer

I am a Non-Binary Neo-Romantic Pianist-Composer and aspiring Recorder player. I take a lot of inspiration from Russian Romantic and 20th century composers as well as more modern Jazz fusion in both my classical and electronic work. I'm a big fan of crazy harmonies, especially using fleeting episodes of far away keys. I like to keep everything interesting, make it better for the listener.

Reminiscence – Ike Eichenberg

At the start of the semester, Dr. Onishi informed those of us who are first years in the program that our goal for the semester was for each of us to write a duet to be performed in Still Breathing’s upcoming December concert. Right out of the gate, I had a concept of what I wanted to write; I knew I wanted to challenge myself to write something in a 5/4 time signature, and I wanted to have a moment where the Bass Clarinet underneath plays a 3/4 rhythm until the parts eventually line up into a beautiful duet and go forward harmoniously.

As I was writing my initial ideas, I dwelled on what I wanted the final product to be like. I reflected on the material I had written, and after a discussion with my roommate, I came up with Reminiscence. My piece starts off with a somber feeling—the kind that comes with the nostalgic loneliness that has grown so prevalent within our world. Eventually the rhythms begin to collide and the meter becomes somewhat ambiguous, just as our own memories can often be chaotic and hazy. Then, suddenly, it all comes together and the light shines through, going forward on a positive journey of reminiscence. Through both the good times and the bad, we ultimately reminisce of the past with a smile as we
remember happier days, and perhaps the memory of those days can guide us to create even greater memories for tomorrow.

– Ike Eichenberg

About the Composer

Ike is a transfer student attending the University of Delaware. After graduating high school in 2020, he first began his education at West Chester University that year as a Music Education major. During his time there he got involved with the composition department, and began to discover his love for writing music. After struggling with work and the Covid pandemic throughout his first spring semester, he grew discouraged and decided to leave school to pursue other avenues in life—however, his love for music never dissipated, and eventually he felt called to return to college and finish his education. In the Fall of 2023, he became a student at UD to study to receive his Bachelor of Music in Composition degree. He plans to continue to grad school after graduation to further his knowledge, and he hopes to one day go on to compose full scores for films and video games, as well as teach Composition and Music Theory at the collegiate level. His music is often inspired by the soundtracks he grew up listening to, and he feels that music should ultimately strive to invoke an emotional connection within the viewer.

Western Dealings – Cody Weston Cheadle

*Western Dealings* is a five-movement adventure to the American West. Being born and raised in Colorado, I have always had a love for our Western culture and spirit. Each movement is rooted in some aspect of the West. “The Sun, the Plains, and You”, is a conception of the Great American Desert (the Great Plains). Inspiration comes from the Pawnee National Grasslands in Northeastern Colorado. The landscape is barren and fosters a feeling of magnificence, yet overwhelming emptiness; there is nothing, literally, except the sun, the plains, and you. “Kiss and Kick” captures the spirit of the Cowboy. The Cowboy is a spitting image of the West who fosters freedom, determination, independence, good morale, and is never without a keen sense of “giddy-up”. The American West has always been an epicenter of intersecting cultures, peoples, and nations. “Wind Dwellers” is an homage to the Native American flute, an integral instrument in many tribes’ cultures. It holds great meaning and sacredness and, having always been a fond listener myself, I wanted to convey its essence through clarinet. “My Colt’s Bigger than Yours” presents the classic Western “stand-off”. Although such stand-offs were rare, the West was, and still is, a battleground that is never without
challenging conflicts and disputes. Finally, “As Long as there’s a Sunset...” comes from the phrase, “As Long as there’s a Sunset, there’s a West”. This phrase can be interpreted as, the spirit of the West lives on in those who carry the spirit of freedom, adventure, good and strong morale, and a deeper understanding and respect of the great Earth with which we live upon.

– Cody Weston Cheadle

About the Composer

Cody Weston Cheadle was born and raised in Littleton, Colorado. He started learning classical piano at a very young age along with theory and composition. At age ten, Cody picked up the clarinet and by the end of high school, clarinet had become his primary instrument. In High School, he became heavily involved in concert and marching band and sought to hone his musical skills. Cody attended the University of Northern Colorado in Greeley, Colorado and studied clarinet with Lauren Jacobson, Jason Shafer and composition with Paul Elwood. In 2022, he graduated with a B.M. in Composition. Soon afterwards, he moved to Delaware to attend the University of Delaware and is pursuing a M.M. in Composition. There, he studied composition with Jennifer Barker and is currently studying with Yoshiaki Onishi. Cody loves clarinet and band, serving as UNC’s drum major for three years. He also performs and composes for the Great Highland Bagpipe. When not writing music, Cody enjoys mountaineering, hiking, fishing, outdoorsmanship, and loves history. Cody is proud of his Western heritage and home and honors it by immortalizing it within his music.

– Cody Weston Cheadle
ABOUT STILL BREATHING

*Still Breathing* is a course at the University of Delaware School of Music which organizes two concerts per semester, showcasing works by UD student composers as well as contemporary pieces. Its aim is to foster and cultivate composer-performers, while creating a space for collaboration among composers and students at the UD School of Music.

Starting Fall 2023, *Still Breathing* is directed by Dr. Yoshiaki Onishi, Assistant Professor of Music Composition at the University of Delaware School of Music.

Our Next Events

Saturday, March 2, 2024
8:00 pm
Gore Recital Hall
Still Breathing
Free Admission

Tuesday, May 7, 2024
8:00 pm
Gore Recital Hall
Still Breathing
Free Admission

For more event information and purchasing tickets, visit: [www.music.udel.edu/events/calendar](http://www.music.udel.edu/events/calendar)