

CU ★ PRESENTS

COLLEGE OF MUSIC 2025-26 EVENTS



College of Music
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO **BOULDER**

NEED TO **KNOW**

Need **ACCESSIBILITY ACCOMMODATIONS**?

Visit **cupresents.org/accessibility** to learn more.

LATECOMERS are seated at the discretion of house management. Some venues may not be able to accomodate late seating.

PHOTOGRAPHY and **AUDIO / VIDEO RECORDINGS** are **PROHBITED** during the performance.

SILENCE CELL PHONES AND OTHER PERSONAL DEVICES, and refrain from use during the performance. View this program on your device anytime before or after the show, or during intermission.

CU Boulder is a **SMOKE-FREE CAMPUS**.



Photo credit: Owen Zhou.

Symphonic Band

Wednesday, Nov. 12, 2025, 7:30 p.m.
Macky Auditorium

PROGRAM

Urban Light

James David (b. 1978)

Children's March

Percy Grainger (1882-1961)
ed. Mark Rogers (b. 1955)

Riften Wed

Julie Giroux (b. 1961)
Adrian Holton, guest conductor

An American in Paris

George Gershwin (1898-1937)
arr. Jerry Brubaker (b. 1946)

Intermission

La Fiesta Mexicana

H. Owen Reed (1910-2014)
1. Prelude and Aztec Dance
2. Mass
3. Carnival

PROGRAM NOTES

Urban Light

James David (b. 1978)

Urban Light (2021) is a brilliant display of colors, forward momentum, and intertwining rhythmic layers that is inspired by the iconic Los Angeles landmark of the same name. Created by conceptual art pioneer Chris Burden in 2008, the original work is an assemblage of historic streetlamps that were transplanted from various cities in California and also Portland, Oregon. The tight spacing and repetitive forms interact with the famously dynamic LA sunlight transitioning to the exciting nighttime glow of the city. Primary melodic and rhythmic motives are derived from Morse code for the word “California,” creating an asymmetrical and syncopated groove that continuously builds in energy. Parallel “barre” chords reveal a classic rock/metal influence that reaches its zenith with a heavy percussion backbeat. Polyrhythmic layers and prismatic colors move over, around, and under each other, leading towards a hopefully thrilling and intense finale. This work was commissioned by the National Band Association for its 60th anniversary and is dedicated to my wife who introduced me to the West Coast’s beauty and spirit.

—Program note by the composer, Summer 2021

Children's March

Percy Grainger (1882-1961)

ed. Mark Rogers (b. 1955)

Children's March was scored for band by Grainger in 1919 from a piano solo he composed between 1916 and 1918. The band arrangement was begun in 1918 while the composer was a member of the U.S. Coast Artillery Band and was written to take advantage of that band's instrumentation. Generally accepted as the first band composition utilizing the piano, the march features the woodwinds—especially the low reeds—during most of its seven-minute duration. From the introduction to the end, the folk-like melodies make it difficult for the listener to realize that the work was original with Grainger. It was first performed by the Goldman Band on June 6, 1919, with the composer conducting and Ralph Leopold at the piano.

Like many of Grainger's works, the march demonstrates both the fierceness and the tenderness of the composer's personality. It was dedicated to "my playmate beyond the hills," believed to be Karen Holton, a Scandinavian beauty with whom the composer corresponded for eight years but did not marry because of his mother's jealousy. In 1953, 48 years after they first met, they saw each other for the last time in Denmark where Grainger had gone for a cancer operation to be performed by Fai Holton, Karen's brother.
—Program note from program notes for band

Riften Wed

Julie Giroux (b. 1961)

Riften is a city in *Skyrim* located in the expansive world of Elder Scrolls, the fifth installment of an action role-playing video game saga developed by Bethesda Game Studios and published by Bethesda Softworks. *Skyrim* is an open world game that, by any video game standard, is geographically massive and more closely related to an online mmorpg (massive multiplayer online role-playing game) than to its console and pc competition.

Skyrim is a beautiful world, from mountainous snowy regions to open tundra plains, sea coasts, beaches, thick woods, lakes and hot spring-fed swamps. Large cities, villages, forts, ancient ruins, caves, lone houses, sawmills and abandoned shacks dot the atlas. One can spend hours just walking or riding horseback from one side of the continent to the other doing nothing but experiencing its wondrous environment and lore. It is truly a game worthy of total immersion. Oh, and I should mention that it is also a deadly world, torn apart by civil war and dragons who have resurfaced after thousands of years, not to mention the cult of vampires that are also threatening to take over the world.

Riften is a seedy, crime-filled and nearly lawless city. Located on a waterfront with skooma-addicted dock workers and corrupt guards, it also boasts the headquarters of the Thieves Guild. Sadly enough, it is also the location for the worlds orphanage and the Temple of Mara, the place where the good citizens of *Skyrim* have to go to get married, you included.

Weddings in *Skyrim* are about survival as much as fondness or imagined love. Courtship can be as simple a dialogue as “Are you interested in me? Why yes, are you interested in me? Yes. It’s settled then.” Sometimes the dialogue is more along the lines of “You are smart and strong. I would be lucky to have you. I would walk the path of life beside you ‘til the end of time if you will have me.” Although this game feels somewhat like the iron age with magic and dragons, it has a progressive, flourishing society.

In *Skyrim*, if so desired, your spouse can and will fight beside you. They will die for you or with you. For most of them, that death is permanent. You cannot remarry (not without cheating anyway). What was is over and there will be no other. Being the hopeless romantic that I am, I found the whole situation intriguing and heart wrenching especially if related or injected into real world circumstances. In one instance while playing the game, I emerged from the chapel with my brand new husband only to have him killed later that evening in a vicious full-on vampire attack right outside the temple. (Hey! No fair! I knew I should have married a warrior and not a merchant. I restarted the game.) *Skyrim* weddings are happening in the middle of a world full of violence, disease, war and death. Something Earth is all too familiar with.

Riften Wed is the music for loves and unions, past and present such as this. A love, a wedding, a lifetime shared by two people in the middle of a storm that threatens to tear them apart. Where “‘til death do us part” is not only a reality, it’s a given. Where love is a gift worthy of all the joy and pain it demands. One life, one love, one ending. This music is for those that are truly *Riften Wed*.

—Program note by the composer

An American in Paris

George Gershwin (1898-1937)

arr. Jerry Brubaker (b. 1946)

Gershwin was best known as a writer of music for the entertainment market, but he did make several excursions into the realm of art music. One of these was the result of a brief visit to Paris in 1926 (from which he returned with a French taxicab horn and the sketch of a melody) and a longer stay in 1928. He made use of both the horn and the melody while writing this piece during his second visit. He called the work a “rhapsodic ballet.” His description follows:

“I have not endeavored to present any definite scenes in this music. The rhapsody is programmatic in a general impressionistic sort of way, so that the individual listener can read into the music such episodes as his imagination pictures for him. The opening section is followed by a rich ‘blues’ with a strong rhythmic undercurrent. Our American friend, perhaps after strolling into a cafe, has suddenly succumbed to a spasm of homesickness. The blues rises to a climax followed by a coda in which the spirit of the music returns to the vivacity and bubbling exuberance of the opening part with its impressions of Paris.”

—Program note from program notes for band

La Fiesta Mexicana

H. Owen Reed (1910-2014)

In 1948, H. Owen Reed spent six months in Mexico while on a Guggenheim Fellowship, during which time he studied folk music and composed. *La Fiesta Mexicana* was a result of his time in the country and reflects his observations of the culture. The composer provides these comments:

Prelude and Aztec Dance: The tolling of the church bells at midnight officially announces the opening of the Fiesta, which has previously been unofficially announced by the setting off of fireworks, the drinking of tequila and pulque, and the migration of thousands of Mexicans and Indians to the center of activity—the high court surrounding the cathedral. After a brave effort at gaiety, the celebrators settle down to a restless night, until the early quiet of the Mexican morning is once more shattered by the church bells and fireworks. At mid-morning a band is heard in the distance. However, attention is soon focused upon the Aztec dancers, brilliantly plumed and masked, who dance in ever-increasing frenzy to a dramatic climax.

The second movement, Mass, presents the tolling of the bells, reminding that the Fiesta is a religious celebration. The rich and poor slowly gather within the walls of the old cathedral for contemplation and worship. Mexico is at its best on the days of the Fiesta in which passion governs the love, hate and joy of the Mestizo and the Indio.

The third movement, Carnival, reflects the entertainment for both young and old—the itinerant circus, the market, the bullfight, the town band, and always the cantinas with their band of mariachis.

La Fiesta Mexicana received its premiere performance in 1949 by the U. S. Marine Band conducted by Lt. Col. William F. Santelmann.

—Program note from The Crane School of Music

PERSONNEL

Adrian Holton

Adrian Holton is a graduate teaching assistant pursuing a Doctor of Musical Arts degree in wind conducting and literature at the University of Colorado Boulder, and serves as Principal trumpet of the Colorado Springs Philharmonic. He previously served as the music director of National Concert Band of America and Maryland Band Directors Band at Montgomery College. He also conducted the 2022 Middleburg Film Festival Orchestra, collaborating with award-winning composers Michael Abels, Kris Bowers and Mark Isham.

Holton served 12 years as a trumpet player in The United States Air Force Band in Washington, D.C. and Colorado Springs. He performed with The National Symphony, Colorado Symphony, Boulder Philharmonic, Opera Colorado, American Chamber Winds, Brass of the Potomac and The Airmen of Note. He also toured Japan twice with the Broadway shows *Blast!* and *Blast II: MIX*, and spent two years performing aboard Royal Caribbean Cruises.

Holton currently resides in Littleton with his wife and two children. He holds trumpet performance degrees from Indiana University and University of Florida. Current and former instructors include Shanti Simon, John Rommel, Jay Coble, Gary Langford and Roger Steward.

Symphonic Band

Flute

Lily Arndt
Mallory Deneau
Joyce Hoyer
Caera Knowles
Louise Larsen
Jacob Rubin
Principal
Clara Walker

Oboe

Christopher Brady
Co-principal
Lauren Breen
Emilie Feve
David Paull
Co-principal

Clarinet

Timothy Aguilar
Maxwell Allington
Paul Burke
Sophia Eyl
Seth Ferrin
Lilly Hickson
Liam Kiernan*
Principal
Luke Kneller
Yliana Perez
Adhvaith Ravindran

Bassoon

Rylan Denby
Principal
Carl Gustafson (contrabassoon)
Ciela Heiles

Saxophone

Sydney Bellora
Casey Coleman
Kate Garmon
Matthew Gross
Principal
Curtis Liu
Ashley Sanchez
Carys Vaughan
Ryan Weisberg
Morgan White

Horn

Alina Lum
Sammy Rees
Principal
Olivia Temme
Barrett Teston
Lilli Vincent

Trumpet

Kaden Blake

Co-principal

Toby Buss*

Anthony Kunz

Co-principal

Gwendolyn Milette

Ehryn Myatt

Charlie Smith

Co-principal

Trombone

Noah Burak

Zeppo Castellano

Jace Drew

Jack Harper

Luke Meredith

Principal

Euphonium

Charlie Chisholm

Elyse Cutforth

Principal

Arie Dekkers

Sydney Notter

Tuba

Sean Gaffney

Kiera Layne

Ian Madariaga

Brayden Metcalf

Principal

Liam Ryan

Sophia Perez

Percussion

Max Adams

Angelia Castilleja

Sabrina Klinker

Sawyer Kuhn

Reid Pleuss

Principal

Connor Stitzel

Piano

Gabrielle Lowman

Harp

Lydia Krason

Double Bass

Jacob Kaminski

**This student is graduating; this is their final Symphonic Band concert.*

Since 1920, the College of Music

offers a wide range of programs for undergraduate and graduate study, integrating advanced musical and interdisciplinary training with professional-level experiences.

One of the top comprehensive music schools in the country, the College of Music is a fully accredited member of the National Association of Schools of Music since 1941.

Visit Website

Make a Gift



*Photos: On this page, University Chorus, Fall 2024.
Photo credit: Erika O'Connor; On the cover, Cross-
Genre Ensemble, 2025. Photo credit: Owen Zhou.*

**CU ★ PRESENTS is the home
of performing arts on the beautiful
University of Colorado Boulder campus.**

Explore All Events

Visit Website



*The Drowsy Chaperone (2023).
Photo credit: Bennet Forsyth.*

DEAN'S ANNUAL FUND SUPPORTERS

\$25,000+

Maria Johnson

\$10,000-\$24,999

Dave Fulker and Nicky Wolman

Gordon and Paula Stuart

\$5,000-\$9,999

Marda Buchholz

Kate and Matt Cimino

James and Peggy Gutmann

Rudy and Margaret Perez

Gregory Silvus and Deidre Ferris

Lynn Streeter

Barbara Wagner

Ken and Ruth Wright

\$2,500-\$4,999

Dave Bowers

Chris and Margot Brauchli

Lloyd and Mary Gelman

Suzanne and Dave Hoover

Anjali and Stefan Maus

Vivianne and Joel Pokorny

Mikhy and Mike Ritter

Daniel Trump

Anne and Peter Wood

\$1,000-\$2,499

Maralee Beck and Andy Safir

Judy and Neil Bicknell in honor of Daniel P. Sher

Alison Chubb and Stephen Ruoss

Sandra and Bruce Dudley

Aileen and Steve Gleason

Thomas Godfrey

Herman Goellnitz

Sara and David Harper

Doree Hickman

Susan Julien

Normie Morin-Voillequé and Paul Voilleque

David and Georgia Nelson

Chris and Linda Paris

Gail and Michael Shimmin

Frank Spaid

Tyler Little Family Foundation

Lucinda Waldron and Paul Ward

Mary Webber and Gerald Grammens

\$500-\$999

James Alleman and Barbara Miller

Anonymous in memory of Jay Sproul

Marianne Bachmann and Jim Shaw

Marty Coffin Evans and Robert Trembly II

Barbara Dixon and Timothy Caldwell

Alenka and Peter Han

Connie and Allen Hayden

John Hedderich

Richard* and Ruth Irvin

Kyonggeun and Bruce Johnson

Judith and Jeffrey Kremen

Linda Laird Giedl

Patricia and Thomas Miner

Ellen Morris and Stefan Magnusson

Tana and Joe Rocco, Jr.

Connie and Harold Roth

Cody Scott and Tim Stumbaugh

Heidi and Scott VanGenderen

Kelli and Van Hoisington

Maria Vouras and Vasilios Lekkas

Carol and William Young

Your support helps keep our music alive.

Gifts to the College of Music help sustain the world-class music education and life-changing professional opportunities we offer our students. Whether you choose to direct your gift to support our students, programs or faculty, you're ensuring the future of music at our university and in our community.

Join our community of supporters!

- Give online at colorado.edu/music/giving.
- Contact our Advancement team at **303-492-3054**.

*Lists reflect gifts of \$50+ made between
Feb. 1, 2024-July 31, 2025.*

\$300-\$499

Anonymous

Ingrid Becher

Cathy and Richard Berman

Steven Board

Laura and John Courier

Nicole and Thomas Hasenpflug

Lisa Keil

James Klausman

Jim Lovett and Mary Wilner

Debbie and Rob Phillips

Larry and Madalynn Schmidt

Mike Shull and Melissa Mahaney

DEAN'S ANNUAL FUND SUPPORTERS

\$150-\$299

Anonymous
Jan Alexander
Mary and Davin Anderson
Michael and Linda Anderson
Ashley Beavers
David Becher
Judy Congdon
Karen Connolly
Charlotte Corbridge*
Elisabeth David
John and Zahra Davis
Robert Garnett
Jim Garrison
Jon and Liz Hinebauch
Ann Johnson and Robert Sprinkle
George Kiteley
Lenna and Jon Kottke
Janie and Craig Lanning
Harold* and Joan Leinbach
Gretchen and James Lewis
Patricia and Tom Metz, Jr.
Lisa Moragne-Kayser and John Kayser
Karen Musick
Hien Nguyen
Gene Pollart
Pamela Rafferty
Jennifer and Mitchell Rodehaver
William Roettker
Cindi and John Stetson
Rose Terada
Carol Thieme
Terry and Janet Venard

\$50-\$149

Anonymous
Lucy Ashour and Rachel Garstang
in memory of Benjamin Michael Pollack
Robert Barford
Kimberly and James Beasley
Kimberly and Robert Bond
Barbara Brown and Edward Tollerud
Timothy Brown and Marina Darglitz
in honor of Hubert Brown
Charles Byerly and Juliet Berzsenyi
Susan and William Campbell
John Davis
Valerie and Thomas DellaPenna
Jackie Earnhart
Daniel Easton
Stephen Fincher
David Flory

Irma and Richard Gallagher
in honor of Alejandro Miguel Gallagher
Miriam Gilbert
Elisabeth Grace
Gayle and Lynn Gunderson
Kelli and Geoff Hirsch
Jordan Holloway
Thale and Eric Jarvis
Carol and Charles Javernick
Susan Kinne
Ellen and Stephen Kort
Lydia and Geary Larrick
Kerry Lightenburger
Colette Lottor and Richard Jacobi
Meryl Mantione
Nancy and David Marberry
Marianne and John Martin
Cathy and Byron McCalmon
Janie and Harry McDonald, Jr.
Kathy and Gregory Merilatt
Zoe and Jeffrey Miller
Harry Need in memory of Graham Schofield
Brooke and Gary Palumbo
Desiree Parrott-Alcorn and Rob Alcorn
Floyd Pierce
Tanya Ramond
Mikaela Rich
Zina Richardson
Carmen and John Roebke
Judy Rogers
Sarah Royall
Rojana Savoye
Jan Schiff
Clay and Rebecca Sherrill
Dain Shuler
Lonnie Simmons
Gayle and Thomas Smith
Carolyn Spicer
Terri and David Stringfellow
in memory of Sue Ann Symonds
Cynthia Thompson Grubb and Richard Grubb
Martha and Pieter Van Der Mersch
Jean Wainwright
Leslie Walker and Dale Puce
Wei Wang and Eric Hints
Nancy Whittemore and Michael Bendure
U Kyaw Win
Cynthia Wooten and Walt Wolfenbarger
Fran and Donald Zinn

* *Deceased*

PERSONNEL

COLLEGE OF MUSIC

Dean

John Davis

Associate Dean for Graduate Studies

Margaret Haefner Berg

Associate Dean for Undergraduate Studies and Enrollment Management

Matthew Roeder

Assistant Dean for Strategic Initiatives

Kate Cimino

Assistant Dean for Budget, Finance and HR

Carrie Howard

Assistant Dean for Advancement

Andrew Palmer Todd

Senior Director of Communications

Sabine Kortals Stein

Director of Community Support and Programming

Alexis McClain

Executive Assistant to the Dean

Rebecca Yoho

Director, Eklund Opera Program

Leigh Holman

Eklund Opera Program Manager

Christie Conover

Director, Musical Theatre Program

Matthew Chellis

Production Director

Ron Mueller

Technical Director

Jeff Rusnak

Assistant Technical Director

Ben Smith

Costume Coordinator/Designer and Shop Manager

Ann Piano

Communications Manager

MarieFaith Lane

Communications and Program Assistant

Kathryn Bistodeau

Director of Development

Kelli Hirsch

Senior Program Manager for Events

Mikaela Rich

Program Manager for Stewardship and Donor Relations

Shih-Han Chiu

Development Assistant

Christie Preston

Operations Director and Head Piano Technician

Ted Mulcahey

Scheduling Manager

Kayla Pierce

Head Recording Engineer and Technical Director

Kevin Harbison

Assistant Recording Engineer

Kristofer Twadell

Operations and Facilities Assistant

Peggy Hinton

Lead Piano Technician

Mark Mikkelsen

Media Specialist

Dustin Rumsey

Piano Technician

Phil Taylor

CU PRESENTS

Executive Director

Andrew Metzroth

Marketing and PR Director

Laima Haley

Director of Ticketing and Patron Services

Adrienne Havelka

Front of House Director

Rojana Savoye

Marketing Manager

Elise Zabala

Multimedia Content Manager

Sarita Narayanswamy

Publications Manager

Sabrina Green

Senior Marketing Assistant

Maya Reno

Marketing Assistant

Maija Brandt

Box Office Services Coordinator

Dylan Thierry

Tessitura CRM Specialist

James Whalen

Lead Box Office Assistants

Caitlin Amero

Aidan Biffinger

Box Office Assistants

Macy Crow

Remy DeParis

Joel Ferst

Johnette Martin

Sallu Young

MACKY AUDITORIUM

Director, Macky Auditorium and Artist Series

Rudy Betancourt

Assistant Director for Administration

Sara Krumwiede

Assistant Director for Production

Trevor Isetts

Assistant Director for Patron Services and Stakeholder Services

Amanda Wells

Assistant Director of Operations

Paige Wiedemann

Production Managers

Richard Barrett

Scott Wickham

Front of House Director

Rojana Savoye

Senior House Manager

Devin Hegger

House Managers

Aleighya Dawkins

Pearl Enssle

Brosnan Szabo

*Personnel lists current as
of Oct. 1, 2025. [Visit the
most up to date staff directory
at this link.](#)*