

Department of
Music, Theatre and Dance
Fulton School of Liberal Arts

Junior Recital Given By

Chris Lankford
PERCUSSION

*In Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the
Bachelor of Arts in Music - Instrumental Performance*

In conjunction with the
Salisbury Percussion Festival 2022 (SPF 22)

From the Studio of Eric Shuster
Featuring Eric Gehl and Eric Shuster

Wednesday, April 20, 2022
Holloway Hall Auditorium
7:30 p.m.

Salisbury
UNIVERSITY
www.salisbury.edu

PROGRAM

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PERCUSSION

Three Dances for Snare Drum (1962) Warren Benson (1924-2005)

I. Cretan Dance

II. Fox Trot

III. Fandango

Etude for a Quiet Hall (1982) Christopher Deane (1957-2021)

Morris Dance (1964) William Kraft (1923-2022)

Hall of Mirrors (2021) Benjamin Holmes (b. 1991)

Eric Gehl, vibraphone

Prelude I For Four Timpani (1984) Christopher Deane (1957-2021)

A Cricket Sang and Set the Sun (2006) Blake Tyson (b. 1969)

When Shall We Three Meet Again* (2022) Alexa Letourneau (b. 1998)

I. In Thunder

II. Or In Rain

III. Lightning

Eric Gehl and Eric Shuster, percussion

*World Premiere



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PROGRAM NOTES

Warren Benson's *Three Dances for Solo Snare Drum* is an exciting and energetic piece, considered a standard in concert snare drum literature. This piece contains three stylistically different movements, or dances. The Cretan Dance utilizes stick clicks and has the snares turned off in order to create a folky sound. Fox Trot uses brushes to produce a jazz tone. The final dance, Fandango, is a showy, march-like finale

Etude for a Quiet Hall was the first prize recipient of the 1982 Percussive Arts Society Composition Competition and dedicated to J. Massie Johnson. Christopher Deane, composer of this piece, recently passed away in October 2021. This piece explores the use of silence, sustain and soft dynamic ranges, as well as the technical capabilities of the performer. The more subdued outer sections of the piece contain a variety of characters created by the sustaining of a soft single note played against moving lines in counterpoint. The middle part of the piece is a virtuosic and fast-moving run section, which contrasts and complements the others brilliantly.

Morris Dance is a multi-percussion solo that requires a bass drum, field drum and a snare drum. Morris dancing is a form of English folk dance accompanied by music. It is based on rhythmic stepping and the execution of choreographed figures by a group of dancers, usually wearing bell pads on their shins. Kraft's *Morris Dance* is a reflection of this English tradition. Performers of this piece have the option of wearing an ankle sleigh bell to further add to the theme. Composer William Kraft recently passed away in February 2022.

Hall of Mirrors is a vibraphone duet that aims to showcase the unique capabilities and colors of the instrument. The piece is constructed of several patterns, with each performer constantly mirroring the other. The resulting sound is delicate and mesmerizing. The piece also calls for each player to bow the vibraphone, often while playing with a mallet in the other hand, creating an ambient effect.

Prelude No. 1: For Four Timpani by Christopher Deane is a challenging piece for solo timpani. This is considered a companion piece to *Etude for a Quiet Hall*.

Blake Tyson's *A Cricket Sang and Set the Sun* takes its title from the opening lines of a poem by Emily Dickinson, capturing the beauty of a slowly shifting sunset. Tyson captures the sense of fascination, inspiration and beauty that these opening lines produce, creating a flowing and lyrical solo marimba piece.

continued



PROGRAM

The cricket sang,
And set the sun,
And workmen finished, one by one,
Their seam the day upon.

The low grass loaded with the dew,
The twilight stood as strangers do
With hat in hand, polite and new,
To stay as if, or go.

A vastness, as a neighbor, came, –
A wisdom without face or name,
A peace, as hemispheres at home, –
And so the night became.

Alexa Letourneau's *When Shall We Three Meet Again* is a unique experiment in the world of percussion, exploring the many sounds that percussion instruments can create. The title is a reference to Shakespeare's *Macbeth* and the meeting of the three witches. When writing this piece, Letourneau strived to create an experience that was fun for the players to play and also enjoyable for the listeners to hear. Letourneau's piece takes its audience on a journey. As you listen, pay attention to the growth throughout the piece and how the beginning meets the end. The first movement, *In Thunder*, is an experiment with timbre for one instrument with each performer playing on it. The second movement, *Or In Rain*, plays with the concept of sustain with the use of bowing and rolls. The final movement, *Lightning*, grows with intensity, with the return of elements from previous movements, resulting in a dramatic and explosive finale.

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BIOGRAPHY

Chris Lankford is a junior music - performance and political science major from Milford, DE. He is also a member of the Clarke Honors College. Lankford performs with the Salisbury University Percussion Ensemble, World Drum Ensemble and the Salisbury Pops.



PROGRAM

UPCOMING PERFORMANCES

SPF 22 – Tambor Fantasma

Friday, April 22

Holloway Hall Auditorium, 7:30 p.m.

SPF 22 – World Drum Experience

Saturday, April 23

Holloway Hall Auditorium, 7:30 p.m.

Piano & Strings Recital

Friday, April 29

Holloway Hall Auditorium, 2 p.m.

Mud by María Irene Fornés

Thursday-Sunday, May 5-8*

Fulton Hall, Black Box, 7:30 p.m. & 2 p.m.*

University & Salisbury Chorales

Present Celestial Spheres

Saturday, May 7

Holloway Hall Auditorium, 7:30 p.m.

Salisbury Pops Concert

Tuesday, May 10

Holloway Hall Auditorium, 7:30 p.m.

Jazz Ensemble Concert

Thursday, May 12

Holloway Hall Auditorium, 7:30 p.m.

Salisbury Symphony Orchestra

Presents Rhapsody in Bloom With Cellist Suren Petrosyan

Saturday, May 14

Holloway Hall Auditorium, 7:30 p.m.

Salisbury Youth Orchestra

Thursday, May 19

Holloway Hall Auditorium, 7:30 p.m.

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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John Raley, *Co-Chair, Department of Music, Theatre and Dance*

Colleen Clark, *Co-Chair, Department of Music, Theatre and Dance*

Brooke Church, *Department of Music, Theatre and Dance*

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**Department of Music, Theatre and Dance
Fulton School of Liberal Arts**

Salisbury University

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