



The University of Vermont  
Department of Music

Friday, April 9, 2021, 7:30 p.m.  
Southwick Ballroom

## UVM Concert Band

D. Thomas Toner, *conductor*

**(a socially distanced, live-streamed)**  
**Spring Concert**

### Program

Albanian Dance (2003)

Shelley Hanson

At Morning's First Light (2004)

David Gillingham

Sòlas Ané: "Yesterday's Joy" (2006)

Samuel Hazo

Shirim (1998)

Piet Swerts

*Zemer Atik*

Let Us Sing

*Donna*

*Uri Tzion*

*Sher*

*Ki Mitziyon*

## Notes

We have all come to accept (perhaps begrudgingly) the reality of playing wind instruments during a pandemic: players sitting six feet apart, wearing “music masks” with small slits in them to insert the instrument’s mouthpiece, cloth bell covers with a layer of MERV 16 (the material used in n95 masks), and limited numbers of in-person students attending our shortened rehearsals. Despite all the challenges, it is really gratifying to play together again - to have an experience where students are interacting with one another in person. We used what we learned last semester to start the Spring semester a bit further along than we were able to in the Fall, with the result being that we were able to put together a program that was more like those we've done in the past in terms of repertoire – instead of having to play pieces with flexible instrumentation, we are played standard pieces but with a "flex band attitude" of re-writing parts when and where we need to because of missing instrumentation. One thing we continued from the Fall, however, was the spirit of perseverance despite the fact that things like playing with a mask aren't particularly fun. And also like the Fall, this is especially true of the At-Home students who, because of internet lag, can only participate with their microphones off, yet they did so faithfully at each and every rehearsal. Congratulations to all on a job well done!

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**Albanian Dance** is based on the additive 3+3+2 rhythms of the popular *Shota* folk dance, heard at weddings and other celebratory events throughout the Balkans. Eastern Europe has had a long tradition of brass bands, some of which included clarinets and, since the 20th Century, saxophones. Although the instruments of the American concert band look and sound somewhat different from those used in Eastern European bands, the composer has skillfully re-created the festive mood of a raucous village dance. The composer, Shelley Hanson, is an accomplished clarinetist who regularly performs Eastern European music with her band "Klezmer and All That Jazz."

Starting with its opening soft, emerging texture, **At Morning's First Light** depicts an emerging daybreak. Nature “awakens” as the opening slow melody is accompanied by ever louder and more active fast notes in the upper woodwinds that culminate in an excited passage that is punctuated by the ringing of a gong. A short coda recaptures the opening mood.

Composer Sam Hazo wrote these notes about his piece **Sòlas Ané**: "In December of 2003, I had the pleasure of meeting Margene Pappas, Director of Bands at Oswego (IL) High School. A few years later Margene, who is Irish, commissioned a composition as a gift to her band when she retired. All of the themes in **Sòlas Ané** are original, though they are presented in a Celtic style. 'Sòlas' and 'Ané' are Gaelic words that mean 'joy' and 'yesterday.' The name was given in honor of the joy Margene Pappas found each day with her students. Margene is the epitome of the phrase, ‘Winners aren't in it for the race. They just love to run.’ Turning on the band room lights every morning for 37 years was Margene Pappas' passion."

**Shirim**, by Dutch composer Piet Swerts, is a rhapsodic work based on traditional klezmer music of Eastern Europe, adapted for the modern wind ensemble. After a short introduction, the klezmer tune *Zemer Atik* is heard. This is followed by a traditional Jewish folk song, the title of which translates into 'Let Us Sing'. The tunes *Uri Tzion*, *Sher*, and *Ki Mitziyon* shape the final section, which increases in tempo as each tune is introduced. The title of the piece, *shirim*, is the Hebrew word for "songs".

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Tonight marks the final Band concert for **nine** of our seniors who will graduate in May – this is a very experienced group, with an average of over seven semesters of playing in Concert Band!

**Stephen Paige**, alto saxophone, is a Biomedical Engineering major in the College of Engineering and Mathematics who joined Band for his senior year.

Tenor saxophonist **Ethan Dean** is a Biological Science major in the College of Agriculture who has played in Band for five semesters.

Also from the College of Agriculture, **Katie Bardsley** is a Plant Biology major with minors in both Chemistry and Statistics. Katie has played alto saxophone in the Band for six semesters.

**Nicole Blackwood**, alto saxophone, is a Biology major and Chemistry minor in the College of Arts and Sciences who has played in Band for seven semesters.

Flutist **Angela Maloney** is a Biology major and Mathematics minor who also has played in Band for seven semesters.

**Jordan Mitchell**, oboe, is a Film and Television Studies major in the College of Arts and Sciences with minors in both Music and Applied Design. In addition to her seven semesters in Band, Jordan was chosen to perform in the New England Intercollegiate Band in 2018, 2019, and 2020 (because of the pandemic, it was not held this year).

Finally, we have three students who managed to play in Concert Band for all eight of their semesters at UVM. **Julian Kafka**, percussion, is a Psychological Sciences major and Philosophy minor; trombonist **Kolding Rasmussen** is a Biological Science major with a minor in Chemistry; and **Cory Raymond**, alto saxophone, is a double major in Music and Biology. All are enrolled in the College of Arts and Sciences.

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**D. Thomas Toner** is a Professor in the Department of Music at the University of Vermont, where he teaches percussion and conducts the Concert Band, Percussion Ensemble, and Vermont Wind Ensemble. Dr. Toner was awarded both the Doctor of Musical Arts degree and the Performer's Certificate from the Eastman School of Music, a Master of Music degree and Artist Diploma from the Yale School of Music, and a Bachelor of Music degree from the University of Massachusetts/Amherst. An active guest conductor, he has conducted wind groups at the District level throughout Vermont (he is one of the few people to have conducted the Wind Ensemble in each of Vermont's six District Music Festivals), New Hampshire, and Massachusetts, as well as the Vermont All-State Band, Vermont All-State Orchestra, and the New Hampshire All-State Percussion Ensemble (three times). He has appeared as guest conductor of the Yale Concert Band, the SUNY-Fredonia Percussion Ensemble, and the Green Mountain Mahler Festival Orchestra. As a percussionist, Dr. Toner's eclectic career has included performances with the Clifford Ball Orchestra (for the rock band Phish), before Princess Grace and Princess Caroline of Monaco, at a world music festival in Bali, Indonesia, and with a native troupe in a torrential lightning storm in Ghana, West Africa. Dr. Toner joined the Vermont Symphony Orchestra at the age of 18, and became Principal Percussionist a few years later. In addition to appearing as a soloist with the VSO, he has traveled to China three times, presenting recitals and masterclasses at the Inner Mongolian Arts College in Hohhot, Inner Mongolia. He is a featured percussionist on numerous recordings by the vocal group Counterpoint, conducted by the late Robert DeCormier. Dr. Toner is an endorser of Grover Pro Percussion, Sabian cymbals, and Vic Firth.

## Personnel

### Flute

Morgan Boothe, '24, *Novato, CA*  
Beth Hartog, '23, *Hamden, CT*  
Angela Maloney, '21, *Boxford, MA*  
Sydney McFarland, '24, *Cape Elizabeth, ME*  
Maddie Orcutt, '22, *Montgomery, NY*  
Sophia Thielman, '23, *Stamford, CT*

### Oboe

Jordan Mitchell, '21, *Campbell Hall, NY*

### Clarinet

Isabel Birney, '22, *Chevy Chase, MD*  
Bailey Brown, '22, *St. Albans*  
Shannon Callaghan, '24, *Wakefield, MA*  
Catie Mank, '24, *Camp Hill, PA*  
Jenna McCue, '22, *Suffield, CT*  
Luke Davis, '23 (bass), *Lexington, MA*  
Hazel Dority, '24 (bass), *Fairfield*

### Bassoon

Luke Wille, '24, *Lexington, MA*

### Saxophone

Katie Bardsley, '21, *Manasquan, NJ*  
Elan Bell, '23, *Peru, NY*  
Nicole Blackwood, '21, *Castleton*  
Cassie Heleba, '22, *Rutland*  
Stephen Paige, '21, *South Royalton*  
Cory Raymond, '21, *Richmond*  
Ethan Dean, '21 (tenor), *Colchester*  
Jake Ten Eyck, '22 (tenor), *Mansfield, MA*  
Brydan Medbury, '23 (bari), *Old Saybrook, CT*

### Trumpet

Philip Haddad, '23, *Carlisle, MA*  
Maddy Mitchko, '24, *Victor, NY*  
Catie Segaloff, '23, *Harvard, MA*

### Horn

Benny Berkenkotter '22, *Hong Kong*  
Kateri Grice, '24, *Dillsburg, PA*

### Trombone

Shan Baker, '24, *Phoenixville, PA*  
Irene Choi, '23, *Bar Harbor, ME*  
Patrick Kwass, '24, *So. Burlington*  
Adrianna Quirk, '23, *Plaistow, NH*  
Kolding Rasmussen, '21, *Fair Haven*  
Camille Stevens, '22, *St. Albans*  
Lucille Whittier, '24, *Centerville, MA*

### Percussion

Ally Dovano, '22, *Morris Plains, NJ*  
Julian Kafka, '21, *Bethesda, MD*  
Anna Kalfus, '24, *Colchester*  
Daniel Kelly, '24, *Medfield, MA*  
Ryan Lacivita, '24, *Bridgewater, MA*  
Luke Nawrocki, '22, *Andover, MA*