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THE DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC PRESENTS

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# VALPARAISO UNIVERSITY LUCE CONCERT BAND

# VALPARAISO COMMUNITY/UNIVERSITY CONCERT BAND

Tuesday, November 3, 2020, 7:15 P.M.  
University Theatre, Center for the Arts

Jeffrey Scott Doebler, conductor

Evee Curtis, student conductor

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## PROGRAM

### Combined Bands

Octane (2015)

Quincy C. Hilliard  
(b. 1954)

If Thou Be Near, BWV 508 (1725)

Johann Sebastian Bach  
(1685-1750)  
tr. Ronald L. Moehlmann

Eccossaise for Military Band, WoO 22 (1810)

Ludwig van Beethoven  
(1770-1827)  
ed. Todd Stalter

Evee Curtis, student conductor

Hymn (1902)

*Tribute for Veterans' Day*

John Philip Sousa  
(1854-1932)

Thunder & Lightning Polka, Op. 324 (1868)

Johann Strauss II  
(1825-1899)  
arr. Milburn E. Carey

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## PROGRAM NOTES

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### **Octane**

Dr. Quincy Hilliard is a prolific composer who has been honored many times, including the Mississippi Institute of Arts and Letters Award in 2014, and a commission to write music for the Olympics in 1996. He teaches at the University of Louisiana-Lafayette. Dr. Hilliard came to Valparaiso in the summer of 2019 to work with the band from Lutheran Summer Music and with the Michigan City Municipal Band (MCMB), rehearsing both *Sesenta* and *Octane*. The MCMB commissioned and premiered Dr. Hilliard's *Sesenta*. After a peaceful opening, *Octane* explodes with rhythmic intensity. Most of the composition features complicated independent writing for each section in the band, with two spots where everyone comes together in a loud and rhythmic unison.

### **If Thou Be Near (Bist du bei mir)**

*Bist du bei mir* comes from a collection of songs and keyboard compositions, the *Anna Magdalena Notebook*, written for Bach's second wife, Anna Magdalena. The melody is an aria from Gottfried Stölzel's (1690-1749) opera *Diomedes* (1718). Arranger Ronald L. Moehlmann (1907-1972) was a band conductor in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, and founder of the Cedar Rapids Municipal Band. He is recognized for creating several excellent band transcriptions of compositions by Johann Sebastian Bach.

### **Ecossaise for Military Band**

We've been privileged to hear lots of music by Beethoven this year, since we are celebrating the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his birth. Beethoven's symphonies, chamber works, piano compositions, and his one opera are well-known, but he also composed several selections for military bands. ("Military band" is a synonym for "concert band.") Ecossaise comes from the French word for "Scottish." An ecossaise was a popular European dance step in the early nineteenth century. This particular work is generally light in nature, with dramatic dynamic contrasts, and provides the opportunity to focus on a classical dance style.

### **Hymn: The Messiah of Nations**

The only composition that Dr. Sousa created for Indiana was a hymn entitled *The Messiah of Nations*. The piece was written in 1902 for the dedication of the Soldiers' and Sailors' Monument in Indianapolis. Maestro Sousa set the music to a text by Indiana writer James Whitcomb Riley, known to many as "The Hoosier Poet." Mr. Sousa used the melody of this hymn again in 1910 as part of the second movement of his suite, *The Dwellers of the Western World*. Our performance of this hymn tonight is in honor of Veterans' Day. Usually, during November, Chamber Concert Band collaborates with ROTC cadets and veterans' groups on campus to perform a Veterans' Day Concert in the Guild Lobby of the VU Center for the Arts.

### **Thunder and Lightning Polka**

We know John Philip Sousa as "The March King." Johann Strauss II is known as "The Waltz King." Although this composition is not a waltz, it reflects the Austrian composer's penchant for writing dance music. This work is almost a novelty, as we can imagine thunder and lightning with the constantly changing volume, booming and crashing percussion, and dazzling technique from many of the woodwinds. You'll almost certainly hear the music of Johann Strauss II—perhaps *The Blue Danube Waltz*, *Die Fledermaus Waltz*, or *Thunder and Lightning Polka*—on a New Year's Eve program by the Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra.

—Jeffrey Scott Doebler

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## ABOUT THE BANDS

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### **Valparaiso University Luce Concert Band**

One of three components in VU's comprehensive concert band program, Luce Concert Band (LCB) is comprised primarily of students in their first two years of college. LCB includes musicians from many different majors, and all the professional colleges. This auditioned symphonic band, focusing on the development of performance skills, complements VU's other concert bands—Chamber Concert Band and Community/University Concert Band—in offering concert programming with wide audience appeal and performance opportunities for a broad range of VU student musicians. For 17 years, Luce Concert Band has been hosting the VU Small High School Band Festival, bringing dozens of band members to campus every year. On September 17, 2017, Luce Concert Band and Community/University Concert Band performed for 10,000 people as part of a massed band for the *Friendship Lasts Forever* gala concert at Pritzker Pavilion in Millennium Park. Pritzker Pavilion is considered to be the premier outdoor concert venue in Chicago. In February of 2020, the combined Luce Concert Band and Valparaiso Community/University Concert Band collaborated with the VU Music Therapy program to present the first annual *Sensory-Friendly Concert*.

### **Valparaiso Community/University Concert Band**

Special note: The roster for the Valparaiso Community/University Concert Band would usually list as many as 100 musicians, most of whom are adults from all over northwest Indiana. Because of Valparaiso University safety protocols related to the COVID-19 pandemic, only VU students, staff, and faculty are allowed on campus this semester. We miss our colleagues from off campus! On October 4, about 30 volunteers from our two local adult concert bands (Valparaiso Community/University Concert Band and Windiana), played outside for brief concerts at retirement venues in Valparaiso: Pines Village and Meridian Woods. Those performances allowed residents to hear live music, and allowed band members to come together for the first time since February.

The Valparaiso Community/University Concert Band (CUCB) was founded in 1993 and is open to all interested musicians, regardless of age, without audition. Usually, rehearsals are held all year on Tuesdays, at the Valparaiso University Center for the Arts, room 1518, 7:15-9:15p. For more information, contact Jeff Doebler (219/464-5087, [Jeff.Doebler@valpo.edu](mailto:Jeff.Doebler@valpo.edu)) or any band member. One of CUCB's goals is to support local school band programs. In this light, collaborative concerts have been performed with students from many different schools. The band started a tradition of performing a Sousa-style concert each year in Valparaiso, where the Sousa Band performed four times. On six occasions, Sousa "came back to town," portrayed by Sousa expert, Keith Brion, who served as guest conductor. Since 1995, the CUCB has been hosting the VU Community Band Festival, bringing dozens of avocational band members to campus every year. The CUCB appears each summer for Memorial Day at the Memorial Opera House in Valparaiso, Salute the Recruits recognition at the Old Town Banquet Center in Valparaiso, Thomas Centennial Park in Chesterton, and the Porter County Fair. On September 17, 2017, Luce Concert Band and Community/University Concert Band performed for 10,000 people as part of a massed band for the *Friendship Lasts Forever* gala concert at Pritzker Pavilion in Millennium Park. Pritzker Pavilion is considered to be the premier outdoor concert venue in Chicago. In February of 2020, the combined Luce Concert Band and Valparaiso Community/University Concert Band collaborated with the VU Music Therapy program to present the first annual *Sensory-Friendly Concert*.

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### Flute/Piccolo

Brooke Barnett, Valparaiso, Ind. (nursing)  
Allison Schoenbeck, Pickerington, Ohio (meteorology)  
Natalie Vernon, LaCrosse, Ind. (meteorology)

### Oboe

Alexis Ratkay, Lowell, Ind. (meteorology)

### Clarinet

Alexis Allen, Gary, Ind. (music)  
Ky Perrone, Woodstock, Ill. (mechanical engineering)

### Alto Saxophone

Emily Heggeland, Naperville, Ill. (elementary education)  
Ray Zimmerman, Berkeley, Ill. (computer science)

### Tenor Saxophone

Nathan Wessel, Milwaukee, Wis. (mechanical engineering)  
Alana Williams, Chicago, Ill. (exploratory)

### Trumpet

Jack Britten, Indiana Creek, Ill. (biology)  
Grace Fleszewski, Crown Point, Ind. (environmental science, geography)  
Isabella Pressler, Steger, Ill. (environmental science)

### Trombone

Kenzie Hieber, St. Louis, Mo. (nursing)  
Brendan Jones, Lake in the Hills, Ill. (meteorology)

### Euphonium

Shach Melton, South Holland, Ill. (political science, economics)

### Tuba

Ashley Vernon, LaCrosse, Ind. (history)

### Cello

Hailey Bartels, Lima, Ohio (accounting)

### Bass

Billy Pouch, Crown Point, Ind. (finance)

### Percussion

Christian Paris, Hobart, Ind. (music industry, business)  
Ricky Paz, Schererville, Ind. (music education)

### Manager

Alex Nacague

### Librarian

Nicholas Sanchez

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### Clarinet

Adelina Wolok, Saginaw, Mich. (health care leadership)

### Alto Saxophone

Stacey Province, Elmhurst, Ill. (global service)

### Tenor Saxophone

Dr. Angela Vernon, Associate Professor of Psychology, Valparaiso University

### Trumpet

Kortney Klipstine, Pulaski, Wis. (civil engineering)

### Horn

Mikayla Brinkley, Willowick, Ohio (meteorology)  
Dr. Richard Severe, Associate Professor of English, Valparaiso University

### Trombone

Matt Freese, Lemont, Ill. (civil engineering)  
Gilbert Haw, Marshall, Wis. (mechanical engineering)

### Guitar

Alondra Quiroz, Hammond, Ind. (music therapy)

### Manager

Alex Nacague

### Librarian

Nicholas Sanchez

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## ABOUT THE CONDUCTORS

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**Evee Curtis** is a junior music education major from Mishawaka, Indiana, where one of her teachers was Kaleb Chamberlin '13. Evee plays cello in the VU Symphony Orchestra and trombone in the VU Chamber Concert Band. Evee's service dog's name is Strauss.

**Jeffrey Scott Doebler** was the recipient of the 2020-21 Valparaiso University Excellence in Teaching Award—Mentoring/Advising. On November 3, 2018, he was named a *Distinguished Hoosier* by Indiana Governor Eric Holcomb. Dr. Doebler has served as director of music education and bands at Valparaiso University since 1992, following ten years of teaching in the public schools of Emmetsburg, Iowa, and Shakopee, Minnesota. He earned degrees in music education from Luther College (B.A.), Valparaiso University (M.M.), and the University of Minnesota (Ph.D.). His 39-year career in music education has achieved a unique balance of conducting, teacher preparation, leadership, and working with musicians from the beginning through professional levels, but all aspects of his vocation have had an ultimate focus on teaching. He has been recognized for teaching excellence by peers, colleagues and students, including awards from the Indiana Music Education Association (IMEA), Valparaiso University, Luther College, Sigma Alpha Iota, Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia, and the Confucius Institute. Dr. Doebler was a quarter-finalist for the Grammy Music Educator Award in 2014. In a typical year, Dr. Doebler works with over 3000 students. He has appeared professionally in nearly 30 states, Canada, Malta, Italy, Australia, New Zealand, and China. Dr. Doebler is a former president and state editor of the IMEA. He designed the IMEA All-State Future Music Educators Colloquium, a program that has been replicated in many other states. Dr. Doebler is a former president of the Indiana Bandmasters Association (IBA). For the IBA, he regularly conducts the All-Region and All-District Honor Bands, he conducted the All-State Band in 2011, and the Junior All-State Band in 2014. He is the first person to conduct at all four levels of IBA honor bands. Dr. Doebler is founder of a professional-level concert band, Windiana, which has toured China ten times, and has also toured Italy, Australia, New Zealand, and Hawaii. Windiana performed for the national convention of the Association of Concert Bands in 2011, and the National Chinese Language Conference in 2009. Dr. Doebler serves as concert band conductor for Lutheran Summer Music, the national Lutheran high school music camp. He is conductor of the 152-year-old Michigan City Municipal Band. In 2018, Dr. Doebler conducted the Indiana All-State Handbell Choir. It is believed that this was the first all-state handbell choir in the nation.

### ***Special thanks***

Thank you to the Valparaiso University Department of Theatre—Andrew Gutshall; Ann Kessler, chair; Lee Orchard; Andrew White—for graciously allowing us to use the University Theatre for this concert during the COVID-19 pandemic.



**VALPARAISO  
UNIVERSITY**

Department of Music