



The doorway of a Bronze Age settlement, "Grimspound" on Dartmoor, England.

Limit

the physical, emotional, spiritual, and conceptual boundaries of the world
and ourselves

featuring the music of

Connor Gibbs

composer

Saturday, October 16, 2021 at 7:30 p.m. EDT

Trinity United Methodist Church

Bowling Green, OH 43402

PROGRAM

† *Expansion* 2021
for open ensemble

Rachel Boehl, Sarah Curtiss, Allison Dana, Humay Gasimzadeh, Otavio Manzano Kavakama, Jane Kelly
Kirby Leitz, Lauren Nichols, Rebecca Pollock, Connor Scroggins, Jules Shinkle, Hayden Stacki
Mariah Stadel, Jacob Wolf

† *Constellation* 2018
for toy piano

Ariel Magno da Costa

Tenparu 2021
for soprano saxophone

Joshua Tuttle

† *Liminal* 2020
for mixed ensemble

Katrina Carrico, Cole Habekost, Alex Munson (violins), Jacob Hargrove (percussion)

INTERMISSION

† *Other Worlds* 2021
for open ensemble

Rachel Boehl, Sarah Curtiss, Allison Dana, Humay Gasimzadeh, Jane Kelly, Otavio Manzano Kavakama
Kirby Leitz, Lauren Nichols, Rebecca Pollock, Connor Scroggins, Jules Shinkle, Hayden Stacki
Mariah Stadel, Jacob Wolf

† *Trails* 2021
for open ensemble

Humay Gasimzadeh, Otavio Manzano Kavakama

† *Window* 2019
for Eb clarinet

Jacob Wolf

† *By The Old Grove* 2018/21
for double reed ensemble

Allison Dana, Martha Hudson, Shawna Wolf (oboes)
Cozette Cecconie, Brandon Golpe, Mariah Stadel (bassoons)

† *Premiere Performance*

PROGRAM NOTES

Expansion for open ensemble

Expansion explores the widening of space and the progression of entropy in the physical world as depicted through performance. Beginning from a singular element, events unfold over time as dictated by a set of rules predetermined by the universe. With musical pitches, articulation, and rest, this unfolding is brought to life for us to reflect upon.

Constellation for toy piano

Constellation is a short and rhythmic work for toy piano inspired by images of constellations in the night sky. As a toy piano is thought to be a child's instrument, this imaginative state is curious, fond, and innocent, only pushed to chaos by excitement and wonder.

Tenparu (テンパる) for soprano saxophone

Tenparu (テンパる) is a Japanese expression that conveys being at the edge of one's limits. This work uses various gestures that come in and out of focus to capture the sense of one slowly approaching their breaking point. Ultimately, that threshold is crossed in a final squeal of emotion.

Liminal for three violins and percussion

Life consists of spaces which we move between at certain points. The transitional space between these phases of life are known as liminal spaces. Thus, *Liminal* is a musical exploration and introspective consideration of these spaces. Whether these spaces are dissonant and agitated, such as with the opening sonorities, or calm and spaced, as with the harmonic stasis halfway through the work, or both, is specific to the individual. Where are you?

Other Worlds for open ensemble

Other Worlds suggests that our world is just one of many. The colors and phenomena of other worlds would be different from ours. Every ensemble to play this work will choose the world they bring to life and present it as its own. What is this world; how would you describe it?

Trails for open ensemble

Trails seeks to provide an exploration of the natural world through performance. How do we move through time and space, and how do we represent that with our musical instruments and stage-based movements? This work does not seek to give direct answers, but instead to give performers and audience alike the space to consider these ideas deeply.

Window for Eb clarinet

Painting a modal, melancholic soundscape, *Window* imagines the colors of the outside world, viewed from inside through a large window. The world outside is rainy and dreary, but still filled with life and love. The various colors and rhythms used throughout aim to alternate between calm and instability, based on a longing for sunshine and company when there is no choice but to dream alone.

By The Old Grove for double reed ensemble

There are places dear to all of us in life. Places with memories and emotions of different qualities... places that give a notion of identity to all of us. When writing this work, the image of a small wooded area came to mind. Let us dance in our memories *by the old grove*, recalling memories of varying colors and tempos that push us toward who we are today.

ABOUT THE COMPOSER

Connor Gibbs (b. 1995) is a composer, music educator, and singer from Western Massachusetts. He is currently studying at Bowling Green State University for his MM degree in Composition with Dr. Christopher Dietz and Dr. Mikel Kuehn. Connor previously graduated from Wagner College in May 2017 with his Bachelor of Arts in Music and taught choral and vocal music in Springfield, Massachusetts for three years.

Connor's music has been described as modal and motivic, shifting through different colors to achieve surprising and occasionally programmatic effects. His current creative inspirations include outer space and the greater universe and the inner workings of the human psyche.

His work has been performed across the United States and Europe at festivals and workshops including the Space City New Music Festival, Dartington International Music Festival, European University Cyprus International Composition Workshop, Boise New Music Series, highSCORE Festival, Iceberg New Music Institute, and more. Collaborations with other artists include violinist Esther Abrami, flutist Iwona Glinka, and playwright Daniel Smith.

Visit www.connorgibbs.com to learn more!

ABOUT THE PERFORMERS

- **Rachel Boehl** is a horn player in the contemporary performance doctoral program at Bowling Green State University. Originally from Long Island, New York, Rachel received her Bachelor's of Music degree at the Manhattan School of Music, and her Master's of Music degree at the University of California, Los Angeles.
- **Katrina Carrico** is a violinist and a 4th year music education student at BGSU. Throughout her time at BG, she has taught violin and viola students through Music Plus; she also has her own private studio for violin and beginner piano students. As a performer, Katrina plays with the BG Philharmonia and has also played with the Perrysburg Symphony, Central Ohio Symphony, Westerville Symphony, and the Lancaster Festival Community Orchestra. After graduating, she hopes to get her Master's degree in violin performance and later a job teaching middle or high school orchestra as well as continuing her private studio and performing in a local orchestra.
- A native of Manchester, Michigan, **Cozette Cecconie** is a well-rounded musician who enjoys bassoon performance under a wide range of musical influences. She combines her enthusiasm and expression to perform music in an eloquent and exciting way. As a Senior Undergraduate in Bassoon Performance at Bowling Green State University of Ohio, Cozette continues to pursue new heights of expertise as she nears the end of her undergraduate studies under Dr. Susan Nelson. Having started her piano studies at age 6, she is also a piano accompanist, who collaborates with other specialists (dance, art, drama and music) for musicals, recitals and other theater events. Cozette plans to continue her performance studies after graduation, pursuing a Master's Degree.
- **Sarah Curtiss** is an active performer both regionally and nationally. In 2018, she won the Bismarck-Mandan and Greater Grand Forks Symphony Orchestra Young Artist Competitions and interned at National Flute Association Convention in Orlando, Florida. In 2019, she was one of the winners of the NFA Collegiate Flute Choir Competition and performed on flute and piccolo at the convention in Salt Lake City, Utah. Sarah has substituted regularly with local symphony orchestras in North Dakota and won the piccolo position for the Fargo Moorhead Symphony Orchestra for the 2019-2020 season. Sarah is currently a graduate student in flute performance at Bowling Green State University. Her primary teachers are Jeffery Zook and Lisa Bost-Sandberg.

• Brazilian pianist **Ariel Magno da Costa** currently serves as Adjunct Assistant Professor at Bowling Green State University, where he has recently finished his doctoral studies in Contemporary Music (2021) with Laura Melton and Thomas Rosenkranz. His dissertation on Gabriel Erkoreka's works for solo piano is the first scholarly discussion of his piano music. Ariel also holds degrees from Central Michigan University (M.M.), where he studied with Alexandra Mascolo-David, and State University of Campinas (B.M.), studying with Maria José Carrasqueira and Alexandre Zamith.

Some of his recent activities include participation at the Annual Bowling Green New Music Festival 38, 39, 40, and 41, the 2017 IDRS Annual Conference (Appleton, WI), Society of Composers 2018 National Conference (Tacoma, WA), and the 14th and 15th seasons of soundSCAPE Festival (Cesena, Italy).

Throughout his studies, Ariel has played with conductors Michael Lewansky, Matilda Hofman, Kenneth Thompson, Emily Freeman Brown, Alex Popovici, Nina Nash-Robertson, Alan Gumm, Hans-Peter Schurz and Fernando Barreto. He has also played in Masterclasses with pianists such as Ursula Oppens, Cristina Ortiz, Cristina Gerling, Fabio Luz, Luca Chiantore, Richard Steinbach, Sergio Gallo, Jeffrey Jacob and Ann Schein, among others.

• **Allison Dana** is starting her M.M. in Oboe Performance at BGSU, and currently holds Bachelor's degrees in Music Education and Oboe Performance from The State University of New York at Fredonia. Allison was awarded the Performer's Certificate for her work in Undergraduate performance and won the Fredonia Concerto Competition in 2020. She has performed on oboe and English horn for orchestras and theater companies throughout New York, including the Fredonia College Symphony, the Metropolitan Youth Orchestra, and the Hillman Opera. Her performances have opened opportunities to perform at Carnegie Hall, The Tilles Center, The Eastman Kodak Theater, and many other exciting venues. Allison has a passion for teaching and has continued to work with public school students throughout her career. She presented two educational sessions at Virtual Oboe Day 2020: "Preparing for Solo Festivals" and "Oboe Works by Underrepresented Composers."

• Born in Baku city, Azerbaijan, **Humay Gasimzadeh** is pursuing her Doctorate degree in the Contemporary Performance Program (Piano) in the studio of Professor Robert Satterlee at the College of Musical Arts/Bowling Green State University. She works as a Teaching Assistant at the CMA. Outstanding musical achievements include her participation in many concerts and festivals such as Bang on a Can Festival in Massachusetts, Cortona New Music Festival in Italy, Bridging the Gap Music Festival in New York, Avgarde, International Chamber Music Festival in Stavanger, Norway, Youth Chamber Music Festival in Stavanger, Borealis Contemporary Music Festival in Bergen, Norway as both a soloist and chamber music performer. She is a winner of Cortona Contemporary Performance Competition, Chamber Music Competition at Stavanger University in Norway, and Conrad Art Song Competition at Bowling Green State University in Ohio.

• **Brandon Golpe** is a bassoonist from Sterling Heights, Michigan who is currently pursuing a double major in Music Education and Bassoon Performance. He has studied with the second bassoonist of the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, Victoria King as well as the Bassoon Professor at Bowling Green State University Dr. Susan Nelson. Brandon is currently involved with the BG Philharmonia Orchestra as well as the Bowling Green State University Wind Symphony. At Bowling Green, Brandon is also the band librarian and is a part of the Music Ambassador Program where he helps with enrollment events as well as College of Musical Arts outreach programs.

• **Cole Habekost** is a Violin Performance student at Bowling Green State University, studying with Caroline Chin. A devoted chamber musician, Cole has had extensive coaching and mentorship with members of the Kronos Quartet and Takács Quartet. His chamber ensembles have recently won first prize in both the Douglas Wayland Chamber Music Competition and the Rocky Ridge Music Center Chamber Music Competition. In 2020, Cole was one of two winners in the undergraduate division of BGSU's Concerto Competition. Cole is currently the recipient of the Dr. Paul Makara Violin Scholarship and a recipient of the Bernice E. Coulon Music Scholarship. He was recently announced to be an inaugural member of the Fulton String Quartet, a handpicked ensemble comprising of four undergraduate students from the College of Musical Arts, funded generously by David L. Fulton.

• **Jacob Hargrove**, born in Memphis, Tennessee, has dedicated his life to the musical arts. He is currently pursuing a master's degree in Percussion Performance at Bowling Green State University, studying with Dan Piccolo. Jacob previously earned his bachelor's degree at the University of Tennessee Martin, where he studied with Julie Hill, Josh Smith, Shane Jones, and Piccolo, while also playing in multiple ensembles and traveling abroad to Ghana and Trinidad. At BGSU, Jacob has premiered multiple new works, taught samba batucada, performed in various ensembles, and supported consortiums for new music. Aside from these activities, Jacob has performed on marimba for the Wood County District Public Library concert series in addition to playing as one half of the flute and percussion duo Magtu.

• **Martha Haydee Hudson** currently holds a Bachelor's degree in Oboe Performance from the Autonomous University of Zacatecas, in Mexico and studying her Master's degree in Oboe Performance at Bowling Green State University in Ohio, United States. Martha has been winner and finalist in the National Oboe Competition in Mexico and has taken classes with internationally recognized oboists such as Hansjörg Schellenberger, Alex Klein, Nick Deutch, Nigel Shore, Dwight Parry and Jacobo Díaz. On a professional level, she has worked as oboist in the Zacatecas Philharmonic Orchestra, Zacatecas State Chamber Orchestra, and has also served as oboe instructor in social programs focused on the creation of youth orchestras and bands in Mexico. She has performed as soloist and performing chamber music in important venues such as the Palace of Fine Arts in Mexico, Joaquín Turina Hall in Spain and the José White Hall in Cuba. Her career has led her to participate in international competitions and tours in Belgium, Slovakia, Ecuador, Spain and Cuba.

• **Otavio Manzano Kavakama** is a cellist from Brazil. He is currently studying at the Bowling Green State University, where he pursues a doctoral degree in contemporary music. His current teacher is Dr. Snow, and he also studied with André Micheletti and Dr. Russakovsky. Otavio is a fellow of the Aspen Contemporary Ensemble at the Aspen Music Festival and School.

• **Jane Kelly**, originally from Albuquerque, New Mexico, received her bachelor's degree in trumpet performance from New Mexico State University in 2020, where she studied with Dr. Pancho Romero and was involved in the wind symphony, philharmonic orchestra, jazz ensembles, and marching band. She performed concerts and competed both nationally and internationally while at NMSU, including in: Valencia, Spain; Oranjestad, Aruba; Ciudad Juarez, Mexico; San Francisco, California; Lexington, Kentucky; and Santa Fe, New Mexico. Jane is now in the second year of her master's degree in trumpet performance at Bowling Green State University, where she studies with Charles Saenz and plays with the graduate brass quintet, jazz lab band, and new music ensemble, and additionally serves as the graduate assistant for the BGSU trumpet studio.

• **Kirby Leitz** is a saxophonist hailing from Newtown, Pennsylvania. He received a Bachelor's in Music Education from Susquehanna University, where he was heavily involved in the music department as a saxophonist, collaborative pianist, and a violinist. Currently, Kirby is pursuing a Master's degree in saxophone performance, here at Bowling Green State University.

• Originally from Bowling Green, Ohio, **Alex Munson** is currently pursuing his undergraduate degree in music education at BGSU where he studies violin and voice. He currently teaches violin and viola at the Black Swamp Fine Arts School and was previously a mentor with the Detroit Youth Symphony Orchestras. Alex spent this past summer earning his Suzuki teaching certification at Blue Lake Fine Arts Camp in Michigan where he taught several private and group violin classes and performed with the Blue Lake Faculty Orchestra. Alex studies violin with Caroline Chin and voice with Lance Ashmore.

• **Lauren Nichols** is an active performer and flute teacher. She recently graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Flute Performance and Studio Art, and a Minor in History from Fresno Pacific University in California. She is on the substitute list for two premier professional orchestras in the California Central Valley and has been a featured soloist in multiple collegiate ensembles. She has also served as Co-Director of Community Flute Choir of Fresno, Flute Instructor for FPU Community Music School, and Flute Clinician for FPU Summer Music Camp, in addition to running her own private studio. During the summers, Lauren has performed in masterclasses across the country, and in 2018, she won the Principal Flute position in the Intercollegiate Band for the College Band Directors National Association Western/Northwestern Division. Lauren is currently pursuing a Master of Music in Flute Performance at Bowling Green State University in Ohio where she holds a Graduate Assistantship.

• **Rebecca N. Pollock** (b.1998) is a composer, performer, conductor, and educator. Born in New Castle, Indiana, she holds a B.M. in Flute Performance from Purdue University Fort Wayne and is currently pursuing a M.M. in Composition from Bowling Green State University. She has collaborated and recorded her compositions with the Purdue University Fort Wayne Symphonic Wind Ensemble, Purdue University Fort Wayne Orchestra, and soloists Jonathan Young and Carter Vernon. She rehearsed and conducted the recording of her piece “Breathe: Concerto for Baritone Saxophone; Mvt. III: Air” with the Purdue University Fort Wayne Orchestra and soloist Carter Vernon. Pollock has performed in various European countries, including England, France, Switzerland, Austria, Czechia, and Germany and was a winner of the 2021 Purdue University Fort Wayne Concerto-Aria Competition, performing as a soloist with the Purdue University Fort Wayne Orchestra. She also has significant experience in teaching instrumental wind music as a marching band technician at R. Nelson Snider High School in Fort Wayne, Indiana, and as a private flute instructor in the B Instrumental Program through Fort Wayne Community Schools.

• **Connor Scroggins** is a second-year graduate student at BGSU pursuing a Master of Music in Composition. He has studied with Mikel Kuehn and Christopher Dietz and currently studies with Elaine Lillios. He received his Bachelor of Music from Arkansas State University where he studied composition with Timothy Crist, Derek Jenkins, and Carrie Leigh Page. Along with composing, Connor also performs as a tenor vocalist. At A-State, he studied voice with Matthew Carey. In 2019, he was a semifinalist in the National Association of Teachers of Singing (NATS) State Vocal Competition in Arkansas. He is currently a member of BGSU’s Collegiate Chorale and is interested in performances of contemporary vocal works expanding the repertoire and perspectives of the voice’s expressive potential.

• **Jules Shinkle** is a fungal-based bass trombonist. You can hear them music in various small towns and woods in the Midwest. “I’m a good time!”

• **Hayden Stacki** is currently active as a composer, percussionist, and educator. He holds a B.M. in Music Education from Susquehanna University and is currently pursuing his M.M. in Composition at Bowling Green State University, where he has studied composition with Dr. Christopher Dietz, Dr. Marilyn Shrude, Dr. Mikel Kuehn, and percussion with Nicholas Fox.

• **Mariah Stadel** is a passionate educator and performer who strives to instill a sense of humanity within her students and audiences. She recently graduated with a Bachelor of Music Education degree from Kansas State University and is extremely excited to be continuing her studies at BGSU, pursuing a M.M. in bassoon performance. She enjoys her days at BGSU because every day she is not only able to perform, but to teach and help others while also furthering herself as a student and bassoonist.

• **Joshua Tuttle** is a musician and educator currently based in northern Ohio. An active performer, he performs regularly as a soprano chair of the Rosaurum Quartet and Trichrome (a mixed chamber ensemble), and has performed with the UofSC Wind Ensemble and Left Bank Big Band, as well orchestrally, performing in Leonard Bernstein's Mass with the UofSC Symphony. He has presented solo and chamber concerts around the country at events including 41st and 42nd Navy Band Symposiums, the 2019 NASA Region 7 Conference, as a guest artist at the 2018 and 2019 Columbia Saxophone Camps, and took part in the 2021 Great Plains Saxophone Workshop. Joshua was awarded 1st Prize in the 2021 Tuesday Musical Competition, 1st place in the 2018 SCMTNA Chamber Music Competition, 2nd prize in the 2021 Douglas Wayland Chamber Music Competition, and 2nd place in the 2019 NASA Region 7 Collegiate Competition. Joshua holds a BM from the University of South Carolina and is completing an MM at Bowling Green State University. His principal teachers include John Sampen, Clifford Leaman, and Kyra Zhang.

• **Jacob Wolf** is a current 4th year Clarinet Performance and Music Education major at BGSU studying with Kevin Schempf. Jacob is an avid performer of multiple genres including (but not limited to): Classical, Contemporary, Klezmer, Jazz, and Pop. Jacob is also a very active orchestral player playing co-principal in the BGSU Philharmonia and currently subs for orchestras in Toledo, Lima, Columbus, and Perrysburg. Additionally, Jacob is actively taking auditions for major orchestras/bands across the U.S, preparing for grad school auditions, preparing a senior recital for April of 2022, and collaborating with various performers and composers on various projects.

• **Shawna M. Wolf** is a composer and oboist inspired by nature, the goodness in people, and collaboration. She recently graduated from Bowling Green State University, with an MM in composition and an MM in oboe performance. In 2017-18, between undergraduate and graduate study, Wolf was proud to work at the Philharmonic Society of Orange County in development, ticket services, and special events.

Wolf has a special interest in cross-disciplinary collaboration. This interest was sparked by the Bee Aware Project in 2016 where she toured Hawaii as a composer and oboist, working with entomologist Dr. Michael Dillon, choreographer Rachel Shaw, and professor of Theatre and Dance Cecilia Aragon. Her role as intern and fellow at the Wyoming Festival in 2016, 2017, and 2018 fostered collaborations and work with many more non-music professionals including biologist Dr. Amy Krist (*Potamopyrgus* 2018), visual artist Jan Arabas (*Seeing in Another Spectrum* 2017), and videographer Ali Grossman (internship 2016-17).

UPCOMING

February 18, 2022 in Bryan Hall, Bowling Green State University

*Connor's micro-opera **What Was** will be premiered, in addition to other micro-operas by BGSU student composers.*

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Thank you to all performers involved in this project.

*Thank you to Praecepta for workshopping **Other Worlds**.*

Thank you to Dr. Daniel Piccolo for allowing the use of BGSU percussion instruments.

Special thanks due to Pastor Andrea and the staff of Trinity United Methodist Church.