

About our Conductor

Robert Laguna is an accomplished performer, arranger, conductor, and practitioner, weaving elements of the body-mind-spirit connection into his music and life.

Laguna was born in Río Piedras, Puerto Rico, and completed his bachelor's degree at Southwest Texas State University where he studied music education. After graduation, he taught band in the Texas public school systems for 8 years. He then completed his master's degree in Asian medicine at the Academy of Oriental Medicine at Austin and entered private practice as an acupuncturist. In 1999 he became the dean of students at his alma mater, AOMA.

Laguna joined the Austin Civic Wind Ensemble in 1997. Later that year, he became the ensemble's semi-conductor, assisting Rick Glascock from 1997 to 2003 and Paul Crockett from 2003 to 2005. In 2005, he was selected as ACWE's new conductor.

While a member of ACWE, Laguna joined other civic music groups, including the Austin Philharmonic Orchestra and Cori Spezzatti. He also formed and joined performing ensembles such as the Frontier Brass, Austin Wonder Brass, and Brandished Brass.

Tonight's Performers

Flute

Kathleen Brotherton
Sapana Donde
Kourtney Folz
Faye Garcia
Kathie Goldsmith
Karina Kantosky
Gretchen Kasting
Miriam McMurtray
Elyse Miller
Jennifer Mulsow
Christina Ryan
Susan Sawyer
Michael Severino
Todd Sloan
Debbie Spurlock

Clarinet

Amy Chu
Karen Delk
Maegan Ellis
Shawna Holtz
Ellen Knapton
Mikayla McMurtray
Brandi Otterbacher
Susan Paine-Keeseey
Caroline Reynolds
Janet Rice
Caroline Soper
Misty Stafford
Brad Wilkinson

Bass Clarinet

Andrea Beckham

Oboe

Elisabeth Arneson
Beth Keeler

Bassoon

Ben Copenhagen

Alto Saxophone

Ben Aldridge
Juan Chávez
Mike Patterson

Tenor Saxophone

Matt Mulsow
Derrick Shimek

Trumpet

Evan Davis
Zach Firkins
Jason Ford
Mike O'Neal
Paul Puffe
Phillip Shanklin
Sam Shirley
Duke Tanner

French Horn

Pati Dukett
Amy Firkins
Alan Hutcheson
Terry Martin
Nina Morris
Kelly Ward
Adam Weiss
Isaac Weseloh

Trombone

Warren Gill
Nathan Hoppens
Charles Jenkins
Giuseppe Maccagnan
Patrick Morris
Charles Norris
Jarred Prejean
Bob Roeder

Euphonium

James Barnard
Jim Hadden
Abel Soto
Matt Weseloh

Tuba

Dan Augustine
Mike Bell

Percussion

Jane Gordon
Ron Reed
Bob Russin
Geof Sloan
Jan Ward
Dan Wilson

Conductor

Robert Laguna



Austin Civic Wind Ensemble

- In Tune with Austin Since 1975 -

Conducted by

Robert Laguna

Presents

2012 Fall Concert



Austin Civic Wind Ensemble

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Tonight's Program

The Fifth Trumpeter

W. Francis McBeth (1933-2012)

Admired for his many contributions to American wind band literature, William Francis McBeth often turned to literature for inspiration. *The Fifth Trumpeter* was inspired by a passage from the Bible, Revelation 9:1-11, "Then the Fifth Trumpet angel sounded, and I saw a star having fallen from heaven to the earth. To him was given the key to the bottomless pit. And he opened the bottomless pit, and smoke arose out of the pit like the smoke of a great furnace. So the sun and the air were darkened by reason of the smoke of the pit."

Elsa's Procession to the Cathedral

Richard Wagner (1813-1883)

Transcribed by Lucien Cailliet

An excerpt from the fourth movement of the second act of the opera *Lohengrin*, "Elsa's Procession to the Cathedral" is a solemn piece. It represents the bride Elsa's march up to the church—led by the king—where she will marry a knight whom she has only met in dreams. As one might expect, Elsa is lamenting the upcoming nuptials and the prospect of being wed to someone she has just realized that she hardly knows.

Foundry

Ben Aldridge (1978-)

Foundry was commissioned in 2010 by Wayne Spletstoeszer and the Torrington High School Band in Torrington, CT. The piece is a tone poem, written to depict the historical significance of the brass industry along Connecticut's Naugatuck River. The musical ideas explore hissing sounds, metallic percussion, clanks, thuds, contrasting bright and dark timbres, and harmonies. Says Aldridge: "I find that there is something mysterious and captivating about the idea of a place where metal is melted down and reshaped. Call it metallurgy or alchemy, there is magic to be found in a foundry."

Peer Gynt Suite

Edvard Grieg (1843-1907)

Arranged by Mayhew Lake

Perhaps Norway's most famous composer, Edvard Grieg composed *Peer Gynt* as incidental music to accompany performances of a play by the same name by Norway's most famous playwright, Henrik Ibsen. The play tells of a young farmhand, Peer Gynt, who—after being berated by his mother as lazy and useless—sets off on a series of adventures. The four movements of this suite depict key events of these adventures. Movement I, the Morning, depicts the rising of the sun over the Moroccan desert, where Peer has been stranded by his former companions. Movement II, Ase's Death, laments the passing of Peer's mother, Ase, with her son by her side. Movement III, Anitra's Dance, introduces the daughter of an Arab chieftain whom Peer meets in his travels. And Movement IV, In the Hall of the Mountain King, accompanies Peer in a dreamlike fantasy visit to the realm of the Old Man of the Mountain, ruler of trolls, gnomes, and goblins.

Ein Heldenleben (A Hero's Life)

Section B – The Hero's Courtship

Richard Strauss (1864-1949)

Ein Heldenleben depicts through music a nameless hero, bravely facing his foes with the support of his love. This excerpt, "The Hero's Courtship," depicts that love, represented here by a solo flute. Strauss modeled the figure of the hero's love on his own wife, the soprano Pauline de Ahna. Strauss described de Ahna—and, by extension, the hero's love—as very complex" as well as "a trifle perverse, a trifle coquettish, never the same, changing from minute to minute."

Robin Hood Soundtrack Highlights

Michael Kamen (1984-2003)

Arranged by Jay Bocook

One of the top grossing films of 1991, *Robin Hood: Prince of Thieves* featured a soundtrack by composer Michael Kamen, who had previously written music for such films as *Die Hard* and *Lethal Weapon*. The score earned Kamen an Academy Award nomination for Best Score. The soundtrack also featured the Grammy-winning *(Everything I Do) I Do It For You*, by Bryan Adams.

Cyrus the Great

Karl King (1891-1971)

Karl King was one of the great composers of circus music and a legendary concert band conductor. His march *Cyrus the Great* was published in 1921. Inspired by the founder and first emperor of the ancient Persian Empire, the march was dedicated to King's friend George W. —Cyrus Tremain.