

Gettysburg
COLLEGE

Sunderman Conservatory
of Music

SENIOR RECITAL

The Human Experience

PENELOPE MICHUA- BROOKS

Oboe/English Horn, Composition

featuring

DR. SCOTT CROWNE, *Piano*

JAMES HUMPHREY, *Bass Clarinet*

AND KYLE LORDI, *Euphonium*



SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2024 · 2:30PM
PAUL RECITAL HALL
SCHMUCKER MEMORIAL HALL

Cameras and recording devices often cause major distractions for musicians and audience members alike. Moreover, there are copyright issues to be considered. We ask that you not take pictures or record any concerts. An exception is made for family members of students performing a senior recital.

Always turn off your cell phone and refrain from talking during a performance. Food and drink are not permitted in Paul Recital Hall.

*Thank you for attending a Sunderman Conservatory of Music event.
We hope you return again and again to support Gettysburg College students,
Conservatory faculty, and visiting professional artists.*

PROGRAM

Four Personalities

Alyssa Morris (b. 1984)

- I. Yellow
- II. White
- III. Blue
- IV. Red

Scott Crowne, piano

Suite in B

Ulysses Kay (1917-1995)

- I. Prelude
- II. Recitative and Air

Worthy of Loving

Penelope Michua-Brooks (b. 2003)

James Humphrey, bass clarinet

Kyle Lordi, euphonium

Solo pour Hautbois

Émile Paladilhe (1844-1926)

Scott Crowne, piano



*This recital is in partial fulfillment of the requirements for
the Bachelor of Music Education.*

Penelope is a student of Professor Stephanie Ying and Dr. Avner Dorman.

PROGRAM NOTES

Four Personalities

Alyssa Morris (b. 1984)

Alyssa Morris is a contemporary American composer and oboist who currently serves as Associate Professor of Oboe and Music Theory at Kansas State University in Manhattan, Kansas. Morris has been a recipient of various awards and honors both as a composer and oboist. She has been featured in both roles by National Public Radio. Morris has held the associate principal oboe position in the Richmond Symphony Orchestra, as well as second oboist in the Utah Wind Symphony. She studied at Brigham Young University for her bachelor's and master's degrees, and University of Cincinnati for her doctoral work (Morris 2024).

Four Personalities is a work for solo oboe and piano in four movements, published in 2007, inspired by the Hartman personality test. Each movement, or “personality,” is named after a color and Hartman personality type. Morris writes the following about each movement:

Yellow is fun-loving. The joy that comes from doing something just for the sake of doing it is what motivates and drives yellow.

White is a peacekeeper. White is kind, adaptable, and a good listener. Though motivated by peace, white struggles with indecisiveness.

Blue brings great gifts of service, loyalty, sincerity, and thoughtfulness. Intimacy, creating relationships, and having purpose is what motivates and drives blue.

Motivated by power, red is aggressive and assertive. Red is visionary, confident, and proactive.

(Morris 2024)

In my earliest semesters of study here at Gettysburg College, Dr. Drewes introduced me to *Four Personalities*. Upon listening to and sightreading the piece, I felt immediately that it had to be programmed for my recital. Now, three years later, I am happy to say that I finally have the opportunity to perform and engage with this work. When I look back at where I started, and look forward to who I am today, I could not be more proud. The

performance of this piece is dedicated to all of my professors of music, who have supported and challenged me along my way.

Suite in B

Ulysses Kay (1917-1995)

Ulysses Kay was an American composer who lived during the 20th century era of western classical music. Born in Tucson, Arizona, Kay received his degrees in music composition from University of Arizona (B.M.), Eastman School of Music (M.M.), Berkshire University, and Yale University. Throughout his career, Kay was awarded various awards and prizes, not the least of which was the Prix de Rome (twice) and honorary doctorates from Lincoln University, Bucknell University, University of Arizona, and Illinois Wesleyan University. Kay's works include those for orchestra, chamber ensembles, piano, choir, voice and piano, and solo instruments (Baker et al., 1978).

Composed in 1943, *Suite in B* is one of the early works of Ulysses Kay. Shortly after, in the 1950s, Kay withdrew many of his works, including the *Suite*. Fortunately, some of the manuscripts of *Suite in B* survived, and it has been performed many times since its premiere in November 1949. It has since been featured in contests by the International Double Reed Society (Baker et al., 1978).

I chose to perform *Suite in B* not only for its aesthetic value, of which it has a surplus, but also for its context in Ulysses Kay's compositional career. This piece reminds me that all the contemplation and self-doubt are normal, and that even the world's best musicians can be unsure of their direction in life. I dedicate the performance of this piece to my parents and brother, for always being my guiding light.

Worthy of Loving

Penelope Michua-Brooks (b. 2003)

Worthy of Loving, my own trio for English horn, bass clarinet, and euphonium, was conceived and composed during spring 2024. While working on the piece, I conceptualized it as a sort of song, through-composed in form. In fact, the main theme of the piece was something that I sang before ever writing or playing it. There is some reason, however, to call the work some ABA or similar form, where the main idea is stated, a new idea is presented, and then the main idea is restated.

From January through early May of 2024, I studied in Vienna, Austria amongst many of my colleagues from Gettysburg College. I spent most of my time in Vienna searching for myself. For many years, especially during my childhood, I too often felt like I was unworthy or undeserving of love and basic human decency. It was not until very recently, upon coming out and living as my authentic self, that I began to realize the inevitable truth: I am worthy of loving, and I am proud of the work that I have done alongside my closest friends and colleagues. This piece, both in its composition and performance, is dedicated to those who have uplifted and worked alongside me all of these years. I feel especially inclined to mention Seth Moklak, Lillie Oliver, Michael Tropp, Sarah Neczesny, Kyle Lordi, and Joshua Schriver. I cannot extend enough of my thanks and appreciation to you all.

Solo pour Hautbois **Émile Paladilhe (1844-1926)**

Émile Paladilhe was a composer, pianist, and organist who lived during the late Romantic and early 20th century eras of classical music. Born in Montpellier, France, Paladilhe began studying at the Paris Conservatoire at the age of nine. Seven years later in 1860, he became the youngest winner of the Prix de Rome, a title which Paladilhe still holds to this day. Paladilhe was a prolific composer of his era, writing for various ensembles of all instrumentations including vocal and instrumental music. (Walker, 2014).

Solo pour Hautbois was composed for the Paris Conservatory concours in 1898. The concours was an annual performance competition in which students of the conservatory competed in order to graduate. *Solo pour Hautbois* in continuous form, divided into two main sections. The slow “Andante assai moderato” section is followed by a faster “Allegro non troppo” section (Walker, 2014).

Solo pour Hautbois has become a standard piece of undergraduate oboe literature, and to myself represents the joy of making music for music’s sake. Also, being conceived as a sort of graduation piece, this piece feels just right to mark the end of such an important portion of my studies. So, I dedicate the performance of this piece to my professors of oboe, Professor Stephanie Ying and Dr. Noelle Drewes.

WORKS CITED

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- Morris, Alyssa. (2024) *Bio*. Alyssa Morris Music. Retrieved November 16, 2024, from <https://www.alyssamorrismusic.com/>
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- Paladilhe, Émile. (2024). In *Discography of American Historical Recordings*. Retrieved April 26, 2024, from <https://adp.library.ucsb.edu/names/104580>.
- Walker, P. (2014). *Oboe Music Written for the Paris Conservatoire Concours* (Order No. 3681392). Available from ProQuest Central. (1655594719). <https://ezpro.cc.gettysburg.edu/login?url=https://www.proquest.com/dissertations-theses/oboe-music-written-paris-conservatoire-i-concours/docview/1655594719/se-2>



UPCOMING SUNDERMAN CONSERVATORY EVENTS

November 15 • 3pm *Jr. Recital: Moxe Meiri, violin*, Paul Recital Hall

November 15 • 8pm *Wind Symphony Concert*, Majestic Theater

November 16 • 7pm *Sk. Recital: Evan Hilborn, tenor*, Paul Recital Hall

November 17 • 7pm *Jazz Improvisation Studio Recital*: Paul Recital Hall

November 18 • 12pm *Notes at Noon: Sunderman Wind Quintet*, Musselman Library

November 22 • 8pm *Symphony Orchestra*, Majestic Theater

November 23 • 8pm *Jazz Combo*, Paul Recital Hall

December 5 • 5:30pm *Haulin' Brass Concert*, CUB Junction

December 5 • 6pm *Clarinets and Cocoa*, CUB Junction

December 5 • 6:30pm *Piano Citizens Recital*, Paul Recital Hall

December 6 • 8pm *Choir Concert*, Christ Chapel



For Information 717.337.6815
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