



School of

Music

College of Arts and Sciences

WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY

presents

## *The Graduate Recital*

*Emren Akdamar, trombone*

*with*

*Dr. Yoon-Wha Roh, piano*

*Riley Hoover, horn*

*January 20, 2022*

*7:30 p.m.*

*Bryan Hall Theatre*

*In partial fulfillment*

*of a Master of Arts*

*degree in Trombone*

*Performance*

music.wsu.edu



**Step Out .....**

## Program

### Conditions of a Solitary Bird

Lawrence Borden

*The first,  
that it flies to that which is highest;  
The second,  
that it does not suffer companionship, even of its own kind;  
The third,  
that it points its beak toward the sky;  
The fourth,  
that it does not have a definite color;  
The fifth,  
that it sings sweetly.*

### River of Memory

Alice Shields  
(b. 1943)

## Intermission

### Spectra

*3 movements*

James Naigus  
(b. 1987)

*Riley Hoover, horn  
Dr. Yoon-Wha Roh, piano*

### Concerto pour Trombone

- 1. Andante et Scherzo – Valse*
- 2. Nocturne*
- 3. Tambourin*

*Dr. Yoon-Wha Roh, piano*

## Program Notes

### Conditions of a Solitary Bird

This work was written by Lawrence Borden in 1978 with revisions in 1996. Lawrence Borden is currently retired but spent many years as a professor of trombone at Vanderbilt's Blair School of Music in Nashville, Tennessee, as well as performing principal trombone with the Nashville Symphony Orchestra. This work is performed with passive piano, meaning that the trombone plays with the bell pointing inward to resonate the strings of the piano.

The title of the piece and the movements all come from a poem written by San Juan de la Cruz who lived from 1542 – 1591. The poem can be found in de la Cruz's book Sayings of Light and Love. Each movement was written by Borden to capture a different line of the poem.

### River of Memory

Alice Shields' River of Memory was commissioned by trombonist Monique Buzzarté in 2008. Within this work, Shields explores tonalities and creates an ethereal environment. She states in her description of the piece that "the River of Memory is a meditation and reflection of memories in sound." Shields says that there are four different sections within the work. Written as electroacoustic, the piece calls for a stereo audio track to accompany the trombone. The gentle sounds of water, birds, and bells can be heard throughout.

### Spectra

*Spectra* by Dr. James Naigus is a trio for horn in F, trombone, and piano that was written in 2016. The work was originally commissioned by Jason Johnson through the International Horn Society. Naigus is currently professor of horn at the University of Georgia and has published over sixty compositions. *Spectra* is a work divided into three movements. Naigus' writing allows for each musician to shine through nimble and beautiful solo lines.

### Concerto pour Trombone

The French composer Henri Tomasi was very prolific in his lifetime. His trombone concerto has been popular among professionals and students since its creation in 1956. While the piece is written in three movements, the first takes up nearly half of the sixteen-minute performance time. The first movement opens to a cadenza quoting Tommy Dorsey's *I'm Getting Sentimental Over You* showing Tomasi's appreciation of popular music. The movement continues to be influenced by French Impressionism and street music and has a clear waltz style in the middle. The second movement is slower and more lyrical with an ostinato accompaniment and blues elements. The third movement sees the return of themes from the first two with fast pace and South American rhythms that lead to a grandiose and strong finale.

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