

RIFFS AND RESONANCE

JAZZ IN THE WIND ENSEMBLE

UNIVERSITY OF VICTORIA
Wind Symphony
&
**The Naden Band of the
Royal Canadian Navy**

STEVEN CAPALDO

UVic Wind Symphony Conductor

LT (N) BENJAMIN VAN SLYKE

Naden Band of the Royal Canadian Navy Conductor

TAYLOR TAKACH

Graduate Student Conductor

UVIC
music



FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2026 • 8 PM

The Farquhar at UVic
University of Victoria

PROGRAM

We acknowledge and respect the Ləkʷəŋən (Songhees and X̱wsep̓səm/Esquimalt) Peoples on whose territory the university stands and the Ləkʷəŋən and W̱SÁNEĆ Peoples whose historical relationships with the land continue to this day.

Rhapsody for Concert Band and Jazz Ensemble

Patrick Williams
(1939-2018)
Arr. Sammy Nestico

Unidad en Ritmo

Michelle Fernandez

Into the Blue

Joshua Hobbs
(b. 1990)

Jazz Suite

Manfred Schneider
(b. 1953)

INTERMISSION

Société Blue

Andrew David Perkins
(b. 1978)

Feeling Good

Anthony Newley and Leslie Bricusse
(1931-1999/1931-2021)
Arr. Robin Jutras

Four Flew Over the Hornet's Nest

Nathan Tanouye
(b. 1974)

Proceeds from this concert will benefit the Naden Band of Maritime Forces Pacific Scholarship in Music Performance, awarded annually to 2nd- and 3rd-year UVic School of Music students who demonstrate excellence in brass, woodwind, and percussion performance.

PROGRAM NOTES

Rhapsody for Concert Band and Jazz Ensemble

Patrick Williams

Rhapsody is a unique and eclectic work that dares to pit a small jazz ensemble within or beside the much larger concert band ensemble. Each section of the work contains original (and sometime unusual) melodic material and even stranger formal transitions, but it nevertheless is an exciting work that is full of energy and serves as a great concert opener.

© Taylor Takach

Unidad en Ritmo

Michelle Fernandez

Afro-Latin jazz is often described as an infectious blend of European melodies and lush harmonies with a heartbeat rooted in the rhythm treasures of Africa. The collaborations of artists like Dizzy Gillespie and Tito Puente gave way to a worldwide love of an art form with humble, profoundly spiritual, and yes, even oppressive beginnings. The intent of this original composition is not to add African rhythms in their purest form to Spanish-styled melodies reminiscent of my own ancestral heritage: rather, to pay respect to the result of the organic progression, through time — of the humble cultures thrown together on a small island, and which contributed to the development of these very specific Afro-Cuban forms into what they are... today. These four iconic styles range from ethereal, to joyful, poignant, and intense. In this work, many authentic patterns are woven into the fabric of the winds as well. The composer states:

"On a personal note: It is important to acknowledge that this artistic (and spiritual) union could not have occurred without the tragic circumstances surrounding the unforgivable transportation of enslaved people to the Caribbean. Thoughts often drifted to this fact while writing, and so some of the emotions stirred at the mere contemplation of their suffering may be felt in the Bolero and Afro-Cuban 6/8 sections.

Each brief section represents elements of life that are best experienced (or endured) through unity, mutual support, and appreciation for the trials each of us experiences in our own way. It is also hoped that the exhilaration (in the wish to see others rise above their struggles) is also evident in the ending section, where the initial theme heard during the joyous (*Son Montuno*) returns towards the end of the Afro-Cuban 6/8 to represent the indomitable human spirit transcending the negative events that we may all suffer as a result of life's trials."

© Michele Fernandez

Into the Blue

Joshua Hobbs

When I accepted a commission to write a jazz-inspired work for wind ensemble from Dan Dubay and the Howard W. Blake High School Wind Ensemble, I was caught slightly off guard. My knowledge of jazz was limited to having played in big band in high school and to a couple of jazz theory courses I took in college. Wanting to immerse myself in the medium head-first, I took a beach vacation, listening to and studying as much jazz as I could. And that is how, beside the deep, blue Atlantic, I became enthralled with the blues, a genre originated by African Americans in the Deep South near the end of the 19th century.

Into the Blue pays homage to this uniquely American style. Not only are a majority of the melodies and harmonic progressions based on the blues scale, but the composition even references jazz-inspired compositions, most notably a quote from George Gershwin's *Rhapsody in Blue*. It also employs swung melodies, drum set fills, big band-esque shout choruses, and many other jazz-originated features, in a wind ensemble homage to the blues.

© Joshua Hobbs

Jazz Suite

Manfred Schneider

The German composer and arranger Manfred Schneider has been playing for many years with the military band Heeresmusikkorps 300 at Cologne. In the meantime he developed a reputation as a composer of light symphonic music for concert band in Germany and abroad. Schneider is well at ease in today's musical styles and this time he was inspired by jazz music. The three-part *Jazz Suite* starts with a nice jazz waltz; the quieter second part is a fine jazz ballad, whereas the final part is an exuberant jazz samba. A complete percussion section and a piano will provide the typical jazz spirit.

© Manfred Schenider

Société Blue

Andrew David Perkins

In the summer of 2012, I had the opportunity to share a gig with the incredible Jazz Manouche quartet "Minor Sing" at a festival in Vallon-Pont-d'Arc, France. The talented ensemble performed with the jazz instrumentation and style made famous by Django Reinhardt and Stéphane Grappelli in 1930s Paris. Minor Sing opened for the Basie-style big band I was directing at the time, and the evening was absolute magic. We played well past midnight, and as the locals danced on the cobblestone streets, I looked up at the star lit sky above us, a deep indigo blue. It was one of those rare, fleeting moments where everything else faded away, and I was aware of the pure, undiluted joy of making music with friends.

Société Blue is an homage to Django Reinhardt, Stéphane Grappelli, Duke Ellington, Louis Armstrong, Benny Goodman, Edith Piaf, ragtime, dixieland, and every hot club on the planet.

© Andrew David Perkins

Feeling Good

Anthony Newley and Leslie Bricusse

First introduced in the 1964 musical *The Roar of the Greasepaint – The Smell of the Crowd*, *Feeling Good* is a song about renewal and self-belief — the moment when you turn a corner and everything suddenly feels possible. Over the years, it has formed a deep connection with audiences, perhaps most memorably through Nina Simone's powerful and emotionally charged 1965 recording. Tonight, you'll hear a more recent interpretation made famous by Michael Bublé, arranged for concert band by Petty Officer 2nd Class retired Robyn Jutras.

Cindy Hawchuck

Four Flew Over the Hornet's Nest

Nathan Tanouye

This piece was commissioned by the UNLV Wind Orchestra and recorded on the Klavier Label. Because of its innovative use of jazz rhythms and harmonies melded together with contemporary classical themes, this work is one of the few authentic cross-over pieces for wind orchestra and jazz combo. Written in three contrasting movements without a break, the work features the jazz quartet and explores unique colours and blends between the featured soloists and the ensemble.

© Nathan Tanouye and Steven Capaldo

BIOGRAPHIES

Dr. Steven J. Capaldo

D.M.A., M.Perf., B.Ed.(Mus.), A.Mus.A.(Distinction)

Dr. Steven Capaldo has distinguished himself as one of the most respected music educators, wind conductors and conductor educators in Australia and Canada, earning academic and musical recognition internationally.

Steven is currently an Associate Professor of Music Education and Conducting, Conductor of the Wind Symphony, and Head of Music Education and Graduate Wind Conducting at the University of Victoria, Canada. He has previously held positions in Music Education at the University of Wollongong (Australia) and the University of Victoria, and was the Conductor of the Sydney University Wind Orchestra and the UNSW Wind Symphony. While at the University of Wollongong, Steven held positions including Academic Program Director for the Master of Teaching degree, Faculty Director of Academic Integrity, Honours Program Coordinator, and has served as Interim Director of Music at the UVic School of Music.

Completing a Doctor of Musical Arts in Wind Conducting at UNLV, a Master of Performance (Orchestral and Choral Conducting) at the University of Sydney (Conservatorium of Music), a Bachelor of Education in Music at the University of Melbourne, and an AMusA on Saxophone (with Distinction), Steven has extensive experience working with wind orchestras, symphony orchestras, and chamber ensembles. He has established a long-standing history supporting, mentoring, and engaging in community music and music education settings as well as premiering dozens of works including many commissioned works for the wind ensemble genre and is a passionate advocate for new music and supporting diverse, underrepresented, and local composers.

An active writer, Steven composes, arranges, and transcribes music for wind orchestras, symphony orchestras, festivals and concerts. His work *Invictus Fanfare* was performed at the 2025 Invictus Games Closing Ceremony with his works being performed by groups in Australia, Canada, Japan, and the United States, and recorded on Klavier records (US). Listed as a composer in the book *The Band Down Under*, Steven's music is published through Broлга Music Australia and Murphy Music Press, and has been a finalist in international composition competitions. An Assistant Producer and Co-Editor for eight Klavier Records CDs, Steven was also Chair of the Australian Jury Panel for the 2018 International Eurovision Song Contest and a panelist for Junior Eurovision 2017.

He has received critical praise for his ensembles and many awards for his academic & teaching achievements including the 2023 UVic Faculty of Fine Arts Teaching Excellence Award, the 2018 UOW Outstanding Contribution to Teaching and Learning Award, and the 2011 Recognition of Teaching Excellence from the Australian College of Educators. As an academic, Steven has published in journals and presented papers at national and international conferences in conducting, music education, and music technology including the International EdTech Conference, the BCMEA Conference, the Australian National Band and Orchestra Conference (ANBOC), and the ASME conference.

Steven is highly active as a conductor, clinician and adjudicator having worked at local, state/provincial, national, and international levels. He has adjudicated at MusicFest (Canada's National Music Festival), the Australian International Music Festival, the Australian National Band Festival, the Whistler Con Brio Festival, conducted honour bands including the BC Honour Winds (2007 & 2024), Queensland SHEP Honour Band, Southern Sydney Honour Band, conducted concerts with the Civic Orchestra of Victoria, and was a regular guest conductor with the Wollongong Community Orchestra. Providing professional learning opportunities for music educators and conductors, he has been a conducting instructor for the Canadian Armed Forces and a conducting clinician at ANBOC (Sydney), the chief conducting clinician for the ABODA Queensland Conducting School, a clinician for the ABODA NSW Conducting School, and was the chief conducting clinician for the 2025 ABODA NSW Conducting School and the inaugural UVic Conducting Symposium.

Lieutenant (Navy) Benjamin Van Slyke

Originally from Richmond, BC, Lieutenant (Navy) Benjamin Van Slyke, CD, joined the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) as a reservist with the 15th Field Regiment Royal Canadian Artillery as a musician in 1995. During his time in the reserves, he had many wonderful experiences with the regimental band as well as several taskings with the Ceremonial Guard in Ottawa. During this time Lt(N) Van Slyke had the opportunity to perform on the trumpet all over North America in varied settings, building a wide array of experience as a musician.

In 2005 Lt(N) Van Slyke transferred to the regular force after successfully auditioning and being offered a position with the Stadacona Band of the Royal Canadian Navy (RCN) in Halifax, NS. After three years with the band, he was posted to the Canadian Forces Language School in Shearwater, NS for second language training on a year long course. In 2009 upon completion of second language training Lt(N) Van Slyke was posted to La Musique du Royal 22e Régiment at BFC Valcartier, QC. He was promoted to the rank of Warrant Officer in 2012 and posted back to the Stadacona Band.

In 2016, Lt(N) Van Slyke was sent on the Unique Skill Qualification (USQ) for conducting brass and reed ensembles at CFB Borden. After completing the USQ he was posted to the Royal Canadian Artillery (RCA) band in Edmonton, AB taking on the newly created role of Standards and Training manager for the unit. Posted to the Naden Band of the RCN in 2018 Lt(N) Van Slyke finally returned to the west coast although that was short lived as he was promoted to Chief Petty Officer 2nd Class and posted to Music Division, Canadian Forces Logistics Training Centre at CFB Borden in 2019. During that posting he enjoyed getting a better understanding of the Music Branch and working on the training that will develop better competencies of Canada's military musicians.

Lt(N) Van Slyke received his commission in July 2021, was promoted to his current rank, and posted back to the Naden band to complete his music officer training. He took command of the Naden Band in June of 2022 and is very thankful to be on the west coast working with such outstanding musicians.

Lt(N) Van Slyke met his incredibly supportive wife Angela while working aboard a cruise ship in the Caribbean and were married in 1999. They have two wonderful daughters, Abigail and Alena who bring them great joy.

Taylor Takach

I received my Bachelor of Music (Honors Music Education) and my Bachelor of Education from Western University, where I studied piano with Tina Yanchus and James Hibbard and instrumental conducting with Dr. Colleen Richardson. Currently, I am completing my MMus (Performance, Wind Conducting) with Dr. Steven Capaldo at the University of Victoria.

I have been an international music educator for 12 years, teaching music within both Canadian and the International Baccalaureate Continuum (MYP/DP). During my time teaching abroad, I taught instrumental and general music at all grade levels, was a school administrator in China during COVID-19, and served as chair of iMADSZ (International Music, Art, and Drama Shenzhen), a non-profit organization of Arts teachers and students representing CIS/WASC Accredited International Schools. I was also fortunate to have been selected to present at the ACAMIS (Association of China and Mongolia International Schools) Arts Conference both in 2023 and 2024.

In my free time, I enjoy being silly with my wife and son, cooking, weight-training, and playing Magic: The Gathering. I truly do look forward to meeting and getting to know the music students and teachers of Victoria!

UVIC WIND SYMPHONY

Conductor
Steven Capaldo

PICCOLO

Hazel Gue

FLUTE

Amanda Coates*
Aya Godwin
Hazel Gue
Jaden Patenaude
Trevor Tan
Bodi Kirkby

OBOE

Cat Henderson*

BASSOON

Eli Lyons*
Julian Lao

CLARINET

Luke Ongman*
Ava Rogers*
Clare Kneesch
Claire Lamont
Wyn Perry
Elizabeth Pointer
Zabrina Stead
Catherine Davison

BASS CLARINET

Kate Sandford

ALTO SAXOPHONE

Caiden Meyer*
Piper Elliott
Belle Avery-Girard

TENOR SAXOPHONE

Rylee Francis

BARITONE SAXOPHONE

Cordell Anker

HORN

Natalie Ciurysek*
Karli Messer-Todd
Brooke Allison
Wynn Nordlund

TRUMPET

Tyler Funk*
Joshua Chapman
Sydney Kozak
Gabe Brouwer
Tori Langmayr
Aaron Duly

TROMBONE

Owen Engstrom*
Micah Knutson
Abi O'Hara
Owen Moseley

EUPHONIUM

Ethan Lafferty*
Senora Dunford

TUBA

Rootbeer Voigt*

TIMPANI

Levi Viinikka*

PERCUSSION

Calvin Ransom*
Levi Viinikka
Emma Mickelson
Walker Pearcey
Andrew Canil
Keiran Stephan

STRING BASS

Rob Neufeld

PIANO

Ewen Larsen

WIND SYMPHONY ASSISTANT

Taylor Takach

MUSIC LIBRARIAN

Taylor Takach

STAGE MANAGER

Eli Lyons

* Principal and section leader

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concerts & events. >>>



NADEN BAND OF THE ROYAL CANADIAN NAVY

Director of Music
Lt (N) Benjamin Van Slyke

Unit Chief
CPO 2 Brayden Wise

FLUTE

SI Chris Hutchinson

OBOE

Cpl Erin Woznow

CLARINET

SI Andrew George

SI Samuel He

SI Breanna McSloy

SI Le Lu

SI Juyong You

BASSOON

SI John Myatt

SAXOPHONE

PO 1 Jeff Cooper

PO 2 Barrie Sorensen

PO 2 Roy Styffe

SI Alex Richards

HORN

PO 2 Jean Poynter

PO 2 Allison Zaichkowski

TRUMPET

PO 1 Steve Donegan

PO 2 Steve Champ

PO 2 Miguel Valdes De La Hoz

SI Jordan Tunney

SI Renjie Zhao

TROMBONE

PO 2 Alon Soraya

PO 1 Mike Wade

SI Marcus Hissen

EUPHONIUM

PO 2 Robert Fearnley

TUBA

MS Leslie Perrin

PO 2 Winston Hind

PERCUSSION

SI Lachlan Barry

DOUBLE BASS

PO 2 Ross Macdonald

KEYBOARD

PO 1 Paul Richey

VOCALS

PO 2 Cindy Hawchuk