

OPENING THE DOOR WIDER WOMEN COMPOSERS OF WIND MUSIC

INTRODUCTION

There is a clear dominance of music performed and written by men among works for wind band and orchestras. In 2016-17, only 1.3% of all works performed by 85 American orchestras were by women (O'Bannon, 2016, Data Behind the 2016-17 Orchestra Season, bsomusic.org). Among living composers, that percentage was higher (10.3%). For school bands, the occurrence of works by women on state music lists is as low as 3% (Bakers & Biggers, 2017). What can we do about it? Today's conversation is driven by the idea that listening to three prominent female composers can provide perspectives on why they compose, how they listen to music and how we all might open the door wider to include greater diversity in the music we select and perform with students.

PROGRAMMING RESOURCES

- Composer Diversity Database www.composerdiversity.com
- Wind Repertory Project www.windrep.org
- And We Were Heard www.andwewereheard.org
 - Composer/conductor collaborations

PANEL MEMBERS

Catharine Bushman

Music Education/Instrumental Conducting St. Cloud State University (MN) csbushman@stcloudstate.edu

Jennifer Higdon

www.jenniferhigdon.com lawdonpress@aol.com

Libby Larsen

www.libbylarsen.com llarsen@libbylarsen.com

Tonya Mitchell

Assistant Director of Bands University of South Carolina tmitchell@mozart.sc.edu

Catherine Rand

Director of Bands University of Southern Mississippi catherine.rand@usm.edu

Augusta Read Thomas

www.augustareadthomas.com arthomas@uchicago.edu

MANY THANKS TO OUR SPONSOR



You have to have music that reflects our time now. There's incredible music being written that's not showing up on orchestral stages. - Jennifer Higdon



CONVERSATION

FEATURED COMPOSERS' WORKS FOR WINDS

Jennifer Higdon

www.jenniferhigdon.com

Fanfare Ritmico (2002)

Kelly's Field (2006)

Machine (tr. Blon) (2003/2017)

Mysterium (2011)

Oboe Concerto (2005/2006)

Percussion Concerto (2005)

Rhythm Stand (young band) (2004)

Road Stories (2012) (separate movements available)

Soprano Sax Concerto (2005/2009)

Spirit (2000) (brass & percussion)

Tenfold (brass & percussion) (2010)

Wind Shear (2007) (orchestral winds & horns)

Libby Larsen

www.libbylarsen.com

Big Bertha (2014, unpub.)

Concert Dances (1996)

Cri De Coeur (2009) solo euphonium

Encircling Skies (2009)

Fanfare: Strum (1996) orchestral winds

Grand Rondo (1988)

Hambone (1999) young band

Holy Roller (ar. Boyd) (1998) solo saxophone

An Introduction to the Moon (2005)

River Fanfare (2004) British brass band

Short Symphony (1996)

Strut (2003)

Sun Song (1991)

- Compositional process & influences
- Engaging the audience & performers
- How can conductors be more attuned to the composer's intent?
- · Deciding what is good music
- Commissioning new works
- Composition and music education

Augusta Read Thomas

www.augustareadthomas.com

Recordings available here:

https://scsu.mn/2BuMoFR

Dancing Galaxy (2004)

Fête - a fanfare (2010) (6 tpts, 3 trombones)

Hemke Concerto "Prisms of Light" (2014) solo

saxophone

Magneticfireflies (2001) high school band

Ring Flourish Blaze (2000)

In My Sky at Twilight (2002) solo soprano & chamber

orchestra+

Selene - Moon Chariot Rituals (2015)

percussion/woodwinds

Silver Chants the Litanies, in memoriam Luciano

Berio (Horn Concerto) (2004)+

+can be performed by bands with addition of string quartet