



BALL STATE UNIVERSITY

College of Fine Arts
School of Music

Faculty Artist Series:
BSU Musical Arts Woodwind Quintet

Sunday, November 17, 2024 | 3 pm
Sursa Performance Hall

Mihoko Watanabe, *flute*
Lisa Kozenko, *oboe*
Elisha Willinger, *clarinet*
Michael Majors, *bassoon*
Gene Berger, *horn*

Scherzo

Eugene Bozza
(1905-1991)

Quintet for Winds, Op. 45

- I. Allegro Risoluto
- II. Andante
- III. Moderato – Allegro con spirito

Robert Muczynski
(1929-2010)

---INTERMISSION---

Suite for Wind Quintet (2017)

- I. Cantus
- II. Furlana
- III. Fantasia
- IV. Cabaletta

Amanda Harberg
(b. 1973)

Aires Tropicales

- I. Alborada
- IV. Vals Venezolano
- V. Contradanza

Paquito D' Rivera
(b. 1948)



The **Musical Arts Woodwind Quintet (MAQ)** is one of the country's oldest and most distinguished chamber ensembles of its kind. Established in 1957 as faculty ensemble in residence at Ball State University, the quintet has gained national attention for its varied programming, including the traditional quintet repertoire with new works written by contemporary American composers. At

Brandeis University, the ensemble gave the first performance of Irving Fine's *Romanza* (then unpublished) for Fine's memorial concert and presented the premiere of Morris Knight's *Concerto for quintet and piano* with Michael Bourgeot under the auspices of the Georgia State Arts Commission's Project Radius. The group also gave the premiere performance of Karen Thomas' *Sopravento for quintet and percussion* at the National Association of College Wind and Percussion Instructors' 1994 conference.

In 2010 MAQ was awarded an American Masterpieces grant from the National Endowment for the Arts. The grant supported performances, educational activities, touring, and the recording of the CD *American Breeze* which was released on the Albany Records label. The CD includes works by Bruce Adolphe, Amy Beach, Jenni Brandon, Jennifer Higdon, David Maslanka, and Steven Stucky as well as the world premiere recording of David Maslanka's *Quintet No. 4*.

In addition to its regular series of concerts on the campus of Ball State University, MAQ has performed at conferences of the American Society of Composers, Music Educators National Conference, Music Teachers National Association, Indiana Music Educators Association, National Association of College Wind and Percussion Instructors National Symposium, Society of Composers Inc., and International Double Reed Society, and regularly performs recitals and presents master classes at universities and colleges across the nation.



A native of Japan, **Mihoko Watanabe** is a Professor of Flute, the Chair of the Entrepreneurial Music Certificate Program, and the Woodwind Area Coordinator at Ball State University. Before joining Ball State, Dr. Watanabe taught at the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh, the Memorial University of Newfoundland, and the University of Windsor, Canada. As an active pedagogue, she travels widely as a clinician, presenting

masterclasses throughout the USA, Canada, and Japan. She has adjudicated at international and national music festivals and competitions. In 2005, she taught at the Brevard Music Center summer festival. She has won competitions sponsored by the Japan Flute Association and the National Flute Association (NFA). She has appeared in Japan, Israel, England, Germany, and Canada as a recitalist, chamber musician, and concerto soloist.

She is the principal flute of the Orchestra Indiana and performs with the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra and Fort Wayne Philharmonic Orchestra. She has appeared at NFA, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Flöte e.V. (DGfF e.V.), British Flute Association, International Double Reed Society, International Clarinet Association, American Viola Society, and College Music Society conferences. As a researcher, she published an article, Essence of Mei, from NFA's Flutist Quarterly in 2008. It has been translated and published in German for DGfG e.V.'s Flöte aktuell, and in Dutch for the Nederlands Fluit Genootschap's Fluit. She holds degrees from the University of Michigan, Eastman School of Music, and Musashino Academia Musicae in Japan. As a mindful medication coach, she gives workshops for musicians nationally.



Critically acclaimed American oboist **Lisa Kozenko** has performed throughout the world as a concerto soloist, chamber artist and orchestral musician. She has 18 solo oboe and chamber music commissions to her credit. Her solo recording of Doubles by Judith Zaimont was named to Chamber Music America's Century List of recordings.

Ms. Kozenko was principal oboist of the New York City Opera National Company and has performed with the New York Philharmonic and the New Jersey Symphony Orchestra. She has served on the faculty of the Bowdoin International Music Festival and as an adjudicator for the 2017 Carnegie Hall New York China Orchestra and the 70th Hong Kong Music Festival.

As a member of the Manhattan Wind Quintet, she was a finalist in the Walter W. Naumburg Foundation Chamber Music Competition and prizewinner of the Coleman, Fischhoff, Monterey, Yellow Springs, and Chamber Music Chicago competitions.

BIOGRAPHIES CONT.

Ms. Kozenko was a solo prizewinner of the 15th Louise D. McMahon International Music Competition and presented her New York solo recital debut at Carnegie Hall under the auspices of Artist International.

Dr. Kozenko is Professor of Performance Practice (Oboe) at Ball State University and was Assistant Professor of Oboe and Chamber Music at Mannes School of Music at the New School College of the Performing Arts.



Born in Taiwan and raised in Florida, clarinetist **Elisha Willinger** leads a versatile career as a chamber musician, soloist, educator, and orchestral performer. His appearances have included performing with many ensembles such as the Detroit, Baltimore, North Carolina, Virginia, Richmond, Charleston, and New World symphonies. He has also appeared as principal with the New Haven Symphony and performed chamber music with members of the Toronto Symphony Orchestra. Performances this season include the Dame Myra Hess Memorial Concerts which was broadcasted on WFMT Chicago radio.

A winner of competitions including the 2012 Yamaha Young Performing Artists competition, 2017 Yale Chamber Music Society, and 2019 International Clarinet Association's orchestral competition, he has performed in the US, Europe, and Canada and was soloist with The Royal Conservatory Chamber Orchestra. In 2018 he made his debut at Carnegie Hall in Weill Recital Hall as part of the Yale in New York series. He has spent summers performing as a fellow with the Spoleto Festival USA Orchestra, National Repertory Orchestra, Sarasota, Norfolk, American Institute of Musical Studies in Graz, Austria, among others.

An avid educator, Dr. Willinger joined as the Assistant Teaching Professor of Clarinet at Ball State University in the Fall of 2023. As part of the Willinger Duo ensemble with his brother, pianist Lior Willinger, he is committed to new music and commissioned works for clarinet and piano as they seek to expand the canon from composers of underrepresented backgrounds.

He holds graduate degrees from Yale University, University of Michigan, and The Royal Conservatory's Glenn Gould School in Toronto. He earned his Bachelor of Music from the Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music. His major teachers include David Shifrin, Joaquin Valdepeñas, Daniel Gilbert, Chad Burrow, and Ixi Chen.

BIOGRAPHIES CONT.



Michael Majors has spent the last 20 years entertaining audiences around the world playing the bassoon, contrabassoon, bass guitar, guitar, and percussion instruments in the United States Army Bands and many other orchestras and ensembles.

As a member of the US Army Europe Band & Chorus, he performed in castles, concert halls, and Roman amphitheaters for audiences across Europe, including heads of state and foreign dignitaries, in Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, Holland, Luxembourg, Poland, Switzerland, and the United Kingdom.

Upon returning to America, he has performed throughout the southern and mid-west states with the US Army Ground Forces Band, LaGrange Symphony, Carolina International Orchestra, Carolina Philharmonic, Kokomo Symphony, Kokomo Park Band, Marion Philharmonic, Muncie Symphony Orchestra, and Orchestra Indiana.

Staff Sergeant Majors is a currently serving member of the Indiana Army National Guard as the Principal Bassoonist and Logistics & Resource Manager for the 38th Infantry Division Band, where he performs regularly across Indiana in all types of ensembles. It has been his honor to serve and assist his fellow soldiers and citizens through musical support and he is only too happy to discuss how others can take advantage of the excellent opportunity to serve their country as a musician or in any other capacity.

Mr. Majors earned his Bachelor of Music, Symphonic Instruments, & Master of Music, Bassoon Performance, from Ball State University under the instruction of Keith Sweger.

BIOGRAPHIES CONT.



Gene P. Berger is professor of horn at Ball State University and member of the Musical Arts Woodwind Quintet and DaCamera Brass Quintet. In addition to his teaching position, Mr. Berger is the principal horn with Muncie Symphony Orchestra, Southwest Florida Symphony, where he has been a featured soloist, and a member of Traverse Symphony. Prior to his appointment at Ball State in 2010, Mr. Berger was a member of the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra, Cincinnati Pops, and The Florida Orchestra. He can

be heard on numerous recordings with the Cincinnati Pops Orchestra conducted by Erich Kunzel and the Grammy-winning recordings of the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra under conductor Paavo Järvi.

Mr. Berger has been an active educator, formerly teaching at the Interlochen Arts Academy, University of Central Florida, and the University of Tampa. He has presented master classes, lectures, educational recitals, and hosted clinics throughout North America. In the summers, Mr. Berger has taught at the Interlochen Arts Camp, and has made performance appearances with the Sun Valley Summer Symphony, Colorado Music Festival, Music in the Mountains, The Spoleto Festival, and the AIMS Festival in Graz, Austria.

Mr. Berger received his Master of Music from Southern Methodist University and his Bachelor of Music from Florida State University. His principal teachers were Gregory Hustis, principal horn of the Dallas Symphony Orchestra, Dr. William Capps, former principal horn of the Berlin Radio Orchestra and Tokyo Philharmonic Orchestra, and Frederick Schmitt, charter member of the New York Brass Quintet.

Mr. Berger was also the host of the 50th International Horn Symposium (IHS 50) that was held at Ball State University in 2018.

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