

WILLIAM PATERSON
UNIVERSITY

Department of Music

**The William Paterson University
Department of Music**

presents

New Music Series

Peter Jarvis, director

with guests

New Jersey Percussion Ensemble

featuring

Glen Velez

Monday, February 22, 2016, 7:00 PM

Shea Center for the Performing Arts

Program

Glen (2016) *

Payton MacDonald

Concerto for Hand Drums and Percussion Ensemble

**Michael Aberback, Paul Carroll, Sean Dello Monaco, John Ferrari,
Jesse Gerbasi, Payton MacDonald, , Gary Van Dyke**

Glen Velez – Hand Drums

Peter Jarvis – Conductor

Rotation (2015) *

Glen Velez

For Percussion and Voice

Payton MacDonald

Concerto for Vibraphone and Percussion Sextet (2011-12)

Peter Jarvis

For Percussion Ensemble

**Michael Aberback, Paul Carroll, Jesse Gerbasi,
Payton MacDonald, Sean Dello Monaco, Gary Van Dyke**

John Ferrari - Vibraphone

Peter Jarvis - Conductor

Orbits (2015)

Glen Velez

Solo for 3 Tom Toms and Bass Drum

Peter Jarvis

Marwa (2014)

Payton MacDonald

Concerto for Vibraphone and Percussion Sextet

**Michael Aberback, Paul Carroll, Sean Dello Monaco,
John Ferrari, Jesse Gerbasi, Gary Van Dyke**

Peter Jarvis – Vibraphone

Payton MacDonald – Conductor

Imprints (2016) *

Glen Velez

For Percussion Trio

**Peter Jarvis – Vibraphone, Percussion
Payton MacDonald – Marimba, Vocals
Glen Velez – Frame Drums, Vocals**

Concerto for Frame Drums and Percussion Sextet (2015-16) *

Peter Jarvis

For Percussion Ensemble

**Michael Aberback, Paul Carroll, John Ferrari,
Jesse Gerbasi, Payton MacDonald, Gary Van Dyke**

**Glen Velez – Frame Drums
Peter Jarvis – Conductor**

*** = World Premiere**

Program Notes

Glen: Payton Macdonald

I composed ***Glen*** for Glen Velez and the New Jersey Percussion ensemble. I wanted to showcase Glen Velez's extraordinary improvisation skills so I left plenty of space for him to do that, but I also notated material so that he could interact with the fabulous musicians of NJPE. As with most of my music, the pitch material is modal in nature, and developmental processes are incremental, a reflection of my life-long involvement with North Indian Hindustani classical music.

- Payton MacDonald

Rotation: Glen Velez

For Percussion and Voice

Composed in 2015 for Payton MacDonald and his Sonic Divide project. For many years I have been fascinated with the way the voice can enhance and stimulate any percussion playing experience. Early in my studies of frame drumming I was introduced to the South Indian style of rhythm language and since then have felt a never ending enthusiasm for using the voice to help in attaining a higher level of rhythmic immersion. This piece is focused on that type of interplay between the voice and the playing of a percussion instrument. It alternates sections of improvisation with sections of intense coordination between the voice and a percussive instrument which the player is free to choose.

- Glen Velez

Concerto for Vibraphone and Percussion Sextet: Peter Jarvis

Concerto for Vibraphone and Percussion Sextet is dedicated to Ray DesRoches and the solo vibraphone part was written specifically for John Ferrari. Just over 5 minutes in length, the piece was composed, with many interruptions, between July of 2011 and July of 2012.

For many years I have been interested in the proliferation of literature for the vibraphone. This, my first percussion ensemble piece reflects that interest. One of my considerations while composing the piece was to provide soloists with a piece that could be used as touring repertoire. It is my hope that various university ensembles will prepare the piece and invite a soloist to join them as guest artist. This idea was inspired by the collaboration of Payton MacDonald and Robert Morris on *Stream Runner* by Robert Morris.

- Peter Jarvis

Orbits: Glen Velez

This Piece is built on the idea of taking a duple rhythm, which is based on 2 or 4 notes per pulse, and shifting it to 3 notes per pulse. The Bass Drum keeps the basic pulse all the way through. The effect should eventually feel like the B.D. is syncopated, even though it is steady on the pulse all the way through. Masmoudi, a traditional Arabic rhythm, is the main rhythm used and is presented in its duple version in the first 4 measures of the piece.

- Glen Velez

Marwa: Payton MacDonald

I composed ***Marwa*** for my friend and colleague Peter Jarvis. I've always loved Peter's lyrical approach to the vibraphone and I sought to incorporate his melodic flow and gestures into the basic grammar of the work. The title is taken from the North Indian Hindustani raga Marwa, which has the curious scale (in Western notation) of C, Db, E, F#, Ab, B, typically over a C drone. The lack of a fifth destabilizes the mode, giving it a dissonant and unsettled feeling. However, several minor and major chords can be derived from the mode and I used those to counterbalance the unstable melodic gestures. At the most fundamental levels the work is structured according to the conventions of Hindustani Dhrupad, an art form I've been studying intensely for many years, but the tone and dramatic impulse of the work are thoroughly Western.

- Payton MacDonald

Imprints: Glen Velez **For Percussion Trio**

This piece was composed in 2015 for the New Jersey Percussion Ensemble featuring Peter Jarvis and Payton MacDonald. Since it has been many years since I composed any works for marimba and vibes, the composing process felt like a really delightful revisiting of sonic territory from my past.

Early in my career as a percussionist I spent 15 years touring and performing with Steve Reich and came to deeply appreciate the textures and sounds of mallets instruments.

An unusual component of the piece is a section built around my overtone singing and Payton's North Indian style singing. In addition I have incorporated sections which allow me to improvise on various Frame Drums and explore rhythmic ideas in a 7 beat cycle. My thanks go to Pete and Payton for the impetus to create this new music. This will be the premier performance.

- Glen Velez

Concerto for Frame Drums and Percussion Sextet: Peter Jarvis

Concerto for Frame Drums and Percussion Sextet is happily dedicated to Glen Velez. Approximately 5 minutes in length. I began the piece during December of 2015 and completed it on January 7, 2016.

This is my second concerto for percussion sextet with a percussion soloist. The first, from 2011, is with vibraphone solo composed for John Ferrari and this, my second is for frame drums and was composed for Glen Velez. Both pieces were composed with the New Jersey Percussion Ensemble, which silently shares the dedication, in mind.

- Peter Jarvis

Biographical Information

Michael Aberback:

Percussionist Dr. **Michael Aberback** is an active performer and music educator. Michael has performed at Carnegie Hall, The Madison Square Garden Theatre, Symphony Space, The New Jersey Performing Arts Center, The Music Festival of the Hamptons, Merkin Concert Hall, The Count Basie Theatre, and many other New York area venues. He has played with The New Jersey Percussion Ensemble, Camerata Noturna, Cantori New York, The ISCM League of Composers, The New Music Consort, Music From China, and Newband, to name a few. He can be heard on recordings on the CRI and Naxos labels. Michael holds a Doctor of Musical Arts degree from SUNY Stony Brook, where he studied percussion with Raymond DesRoches and Eduardo Leandro. Michael has taught students at every level. In 2009, he received the WDHA 'Teachers Who Rock' award, and in 2014, he was named 'teacher of the year' in the Mount Arlington Public School District.

Paul Carroll:

Paul Carroll is a Hudson Valley based percussionist and educator, and has performed with many prestigious contemporary music groups in the New York area. Through a grant from the Beebe Foundation, Paul studied in Copenhagen, Denmark, where he performed with the Athelas Ensemble and the Ensemble Figura. Most recently, he has worked with a Hudson Valley based group called Madera Vox. Paul Carroll has worked with many composers and had solo works dedicated to him by Robert Pollock

and Peter Zaporinuk. He can be heard on many recordings, including the 2008 release of Charles Wuorinen's *The Dante Trilogy*, on Naxos. Paul was honored to have studied with percussion pioneers Raymond DesRoches and Bent Lylloff, as well as the legendary jazz drummer, Joe Morello. He holds a Doctorate and Master in Music from SUNY at Stony Brook, and a Bachelor of Music degree from William Paterson University.

Sean Dello Monaco:

Born, February 23, 1996 in Lyndhurst New Jersey, Sean Dello Monaco discovered a love for percussion while in high school. He is currently a classical performance percussion major at William Patterson University. Sean frequently plays in the pit for musicals and has performed at the New Jersey Performing Arts Center. In addition to performing, Sean also builds percussion instruments and makes mallets; he has recently started a company called Telson Percussion.

John Ferrari:

John Ferrari is active in classical, jazz, pop, Broadway, film, television and dance music, the avant-garde, and multi-media. He has performed and given master classes nationally and abroad, and appears on dozens of recordings as percussionist, drummer and conductor. He is a founding member of the Naumburg Award winning New Millennium Ensemble, a regular guest artist of the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center and Chamber Music Northwest, and has been a member of Meridian Arts Ensemble since 1993. Mr. Ferrari has also appeared and/or recorded with many other notable organizations such as: Bang On A Can All-Stars, Da Capo Chamber Players, Manhattan Symphonietta, Perspectives Ensemble, The Group for Contemporary Music, Orpheus Chamber Players, Riverside Symphony, Locrian, Cygnus, Pittsburg Collective, John Hollenbeck Large Ensemble and others. He most recently has been heard in orchestras for the Shakespeare In The Park production of *Into The Woods* and *Evita* on Broadway. He also launched the premier concert of the Kag Ensemble this August at the DiMenna Center in New York. Mr. Ferrari holds DMA and MM degrees from SUNY Stony Brook, and a BM from William Paterson University where he has served on the performing arts faculty since 2002. In fall 2007 he joined the faculty of Manhattan School of Music's graduate Contemporary Performance program. He is also on the teaching artist rosters of Hunter College (since 2008) and Princeton University (since 2010).

Jesse Gerbasi:

Born in Plainfield New Jersey, **Jesse Gerbasi** started out playing drumset early on in high school and later moved on to play classical percussion. He is currently a music education major at William Paterson University in his junior year. Jesse often plays with local community Orchestras and Concert Bands, such as the Raritan Valley Symphonic Band and the Baroque Orchestra of New Jersey.

Peter Jarvis:

Peter Jarvis (b. 1959, Hackensack, New Jersey) ("Jarvis' podium style embedded precision within flowing gestures, a philosophy of movement which clearly transferred itself to the players" - Classical New Jersey) is a percussionist, drummer, conductor, composer, music copyist, print music editor and college professor. He is an

Associate Director of the composer Concordance and serves as Chairman of the Board of Directors.

Over the decades, he has performed popular and unpopular music with equal enthusiasm. He has performed as a soloist, chamber player, Broadway musician and as conductor/player with chamber music ensembles, orchestras and choruses. The proliferation of percussion literature is extremely important to Jarvis and he has performed approximately 100 solo pieces for multi percussion, timpani, vibraphone, marimba, solo snare drum and drum set composed for him.

As conductor, he has appeared with the Saint Luke's Chamber Ensemble, The New Jersey Percussion Ensemble, Composers Concordance, and many other groups. Jarvis composed, orchestrated, arranged and performed music for Wes Anderson's film *Moonrise Kingdom*, which received a Golden Globe nomination for Best Score. He has also performed his own solo percussion music for several episodes of the HBO Series *Boardwalk Empire*. He has recorded a great many pieces as soloist, chamber musician and conductor for several labels. His compositions are published by Calabrese Brothers Music LLC, Indian Paintbrush Productions and L-T Music Publishing and he is a member of BMI.

- From Wikipedia

Payton MacDonald:

Payton MacDonald (b. 1974, Idaho Falls, Idaho) is a composer/improviser/percussionist/singer/educator. MacDonald was a founding member of new-music chamber orchestra superstars Alarm Will Sound and has also toured internationally as a solo marimbist and a member of various chamber ensembles including Galaxy Percussion, NJPE, Present Music, and Verederos. He has commissioned many works from today's leading composers, including Charles Wuorinen, Don Freund, Elliott Sharp, and many others. And many of the world's best ensembles have performed MacDonald's music, including the Los Angeles Philharmonic, JACK Quartet, Alarm Will Sound, et al. MacDonald has performed in the world's best venues, including Carnegie Hall, Lincoln Center, Barbican, and many more. MacDonald studied music at the University of Michigan (B.F.A.) and the Eastman School of Music (M.M., D.M.A.). His composition teachers include Sydney Hodkinson, Robert Morris, Dave Rivello, Bright Sheng, and Augusta Read Thomas. His percussion teachers include John Beck and Michael Udow, and tabla with Bob Becker and Pandit Sharda Sahai. Further studies include Dhrupad vocal with the Gundecha Brothers. MacDonald has been to India many times, including for nine months as a Senior Fulbright-Nehru Fellow. The Los Angeles Times described MacDonald as an ". . . inventive, stylistically omnivorous composer and gifted performer . . ." MacDonald serves as a Full Professor of Music at William Paterson University and he is a Co-Artistic Director of SHASTRA, an organization that brings together the music of India and the West.

Gary Van Dyke:

Gary Van Dyke is an accomplished percussionist who is active as a performer, conductor and educator. He studied percussion with Raymond DesRoches for six years and earned music degrees from William Paterson College and the State University of New York at Stony Brook. Mr. Van Dyke performs and conducts with the New Jersey New Music Ensemble and the New Jersey Percussion Ensemble. He can be heard on Nonesuch, Composer's Recording Inc., New World and Capstone recording labels with

the New Jersey Percussion Ensemble under Charles Wuorinen, Harvey Solberger and Raymond DesRoches.

Mr. Van Dyke has held teaching positions since 1978 and currently teaches/conducts for the Teaneck Public School system in New Jersey, serving seven schools, grades 4 – 12, and is an Adjunct Faculty at William Paterson University, conducting and performing new music and percussion ensemble literature.

Mr. Van Dyke makes his home in Ramsey, New Jersey with his wife, Linea and their three children, Amanda, Kyle and Briana.

Glen Velez:

Four-time Grammy Award-winner Glen Velez is an internationally-acclaimed soloist and seminal figure in the modern history of the Frame Drum. In 2014 Glen was inducted into the Percussive Arts Society "Hall of Fame." For over three decades, Velez has brought a new genre of drumming to the Western world by creating his own performance style, inspired by years of studying frame drumming techniques from various cultures. Regarded as a legendary figure among musicians and audiences worldwide, twentieth century composer John Cage acknowledged Velez' mastery of the instrument by writing a piece especially for him in 1989. After many years performing and recording with the Steve Reich Ensemble and the Paul Winter Consort, Velez maintains an international touring schedule as a soloist while teaching at Mannes College of Music. His Handance Method uses simple movements and vocal rhythms to teach frame drumming and mind body synchronization.

Many Thanks to the Tech Crew under the Direction of Al Schaefer.

New Music Series – 2015 - 2016

All Concerts are at 7:00 PM unless otherwise stated.

All performances are in Shea Auditorium unless otherwise stated.

All programs are subject to change without notice.

September 14, 2015 - Composers Concordance. A multi media event featuring the Manhattan Brass Ensemble and the comp Cord Ensemble with 4 premieres, all including new poetry and videos.

October 19, 2015 – WPU New Music and Percussion Ensembles.

November 9, 2015 – WPU New Music and Percussion Ensembles.

November 23, 2015 – WPU Percussion Ensemble & New Jersey Percussion Ensemble with guest Kevin Norton

February 1, 2016 – Concert of Solos – Featuring Soloists: John Ferrari, Daniel Lippel, Payton MacDonald and William Schimmel

February 22, 2016 - New Jersey Percussion Ensemble performs a concert featuring 4 concertos and other works. Glen Velez will be featured as concerto soloist and composer of 3 pieces.

March 3, 2016: This concert is on a Thursday and it begins at 12:30PM. Composer in Residence Day featuring our 4th annual WPU Composer concert. Music by WPU students, alumni and faculty.

March 7, 2016 – WPU New Music and Percussion Ensembles.

April 18, 2016 - TBA