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## University Wind Symphony (December 9, 2022)

John J. Cali School of Music

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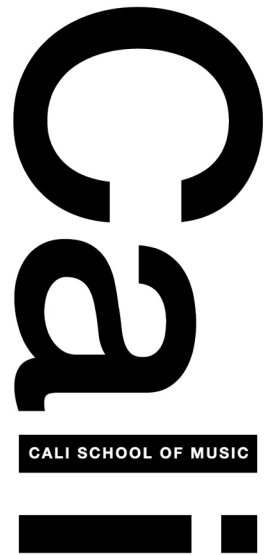
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# MONTCLAIR STATE WIND SYMPHONY

Dr. Thomas McCauley, *conductor*  
Scott Byers, *assistant conductor*

FEATURING

**ZZYZX QUARTET**



FRIDAY | DECEMBER 9 | 7:30PM

ALEXANDER KASSER THEATER

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Junius J. Gonzales  
Provost and Senior Vice President  
for Academic Affairs

Daniel Gurskis  
Dean, College of the Arts

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Director  
John J. Cali School of Music



**MONTCLAIR STATE  
UNIVERSITY**

**John J. Cali School of Music**

## THE MONTCLAIR STATE WIND SYMPHONY

Comprised of the best wind players and percussionists in the John J. Cali School of Music at Montclair State University in New Jersey, the Montclair State University Wind Symphony, since 2006, has appeared at the New Jersey Music Educators Association Conference, the 2012 CBDNA Eastern Division Conference, the National Association for Music Education Eastern Division Conference, and the 2015 and 2012 Northeast Regional Tuba-Euphonium Conference. Their appearance at the 2019 CBDNA National Conference in Tempe, Arizona marked the first time that a large ensemble from Montclair State University appeared at a national conference. Most recently, the MSU Wind Symphony appeared at the international conference of the prestigious World Association of Symphonic Bands and Ensembles (WASBE) in Prague, Czech Republic, in July of 2022.

The Montclair State University Wind Symphony is one of three concert bands in the John J. Cali School of Music, and, though the graduate student population is always growing, the majority of its members are undergraduate students majoring in Music Education, Music Therapy, Music Performance, or Composition. The MSU Wind Symphony has premiered pieces by composers Michael Daugherty, Bruce Yurko, David Gillingham, Elizabeth Brown, O'Neal Douglas, Patrick Burns, and Ting Ho, and has participated in commissioning works from composers Lawton Hall, Armando Bayolo, James Beckel, Stephen Anderson, and Rollo Dilworth. The MSU Wind Symphony has appeared in concert with, among others, Dame Evelyn Glennie, The Imani Winds, the Monarch Brass, The Manhattan Brass Quintet, Warren Vache', and Demondrae Thurman. Since 2006, recruiting and concert tours have taken the ensemble to Philadelphia, Boston, Indianapolis, Chicago, Atlantic City, and New York where, in 2014, they appeared at Carnegie Hall. Former members of the band program are now teaching in public and private schools throughout the northeast, performing as professional musicians throughout the country, and have gone on to attend some of the most prestigious graduate institutions in the world.

## ZZYZX QUARTET

Described as "a superb ensemble with impeccable musical taste" (*The Saxophone Journal*) the *Zzyzx Quartet* was formed in 2007. As an ensemble, they have presented performances throughout the United States, Europe and Asia, as well as numerous masterclasses and workshops across the continental United States. *Zzyzx* is committed to the advancement of saxophone quartet

repertoire and has commissioned and premiered new works by composers such as John Mackey, David Maslanka, David Rakowski, Ian Stewart, John Leszczynski, Erik Norman, Elliott Bark, Matthew Peterson, Sarah Gibson, Laura Kramer and Jonathan Sokol. In 2012, *Zzyzx* commissioned a new saxophone quartet by renowned American composer, John Mackey, which is featured on their critically acclaimed CD *Intersections*, released in June 2013. *Zzyzx Quartet* performed a featured concerto on the opening Gala Concert of the NASA Biennial Conference in Tempe, Arizona and was featured on a concert of up-and-coming young saxophonists from around the world at the World Saxophone Congress in St. Andrews, Scotland. The quartet gave their New York City debut concert at Symphony Space in conjunction with the release of their CD *Intersections*. Additionally, *Zzyzx* was selected to serve on the panel for the Barlow Endowment Prize in 2014 as one of three internationally recognized quartets. *Zzyzx* won 2nd Prize in the inaugural North American Saxophone Alliance Quartet Competition in 2008. Additionally, the quartet was selected as one of the only American chamber groups and the first American saxophone quartet to ever be invited to compete in the OSAKA International Chamber Music Competition in Japan. They were honored as one of seven semi-finalists from 211 applicants and 29 countries in May 2011. Each of the members have also been recognized as award-winning soloists, receiving top awards in prestigious national and international competitions including the Gaudeamus International Competition, William Byrd International Competition, North American Saxophone Alliance Competition, MTNA Young Artist Competition, Eastern Connecticut Symphony Competition and the Carmel Music Society Instrumental Competition. They have also received recognition as semi-finalists in the world's most prestigious saxophone competitions including the Adolphe Sax International Competition, the Jean-Marie Londeix International Competition and the Aeolus International Competition.

Dedicated to teaching, *Zzyzx* established the *Zzyzx* Educational Outreach Program in 2009, which has led to numerous workshops, clinics and masterclasses at middle schools, high schools and universities throughout the United States. The quartet's debut CD, *Zzyzx Road*, was released in 2010, featuring world premiere recordings by Piet Swerts, John Leszczynski and Erik Norman as well as works by Ida Gotkovsky and Thierry Escaich. The album features a collaboration with their former professor at Indiana University, Otis Murphy, as a guest soloist on Gotkovsky's "Quatuor". An article about the quartet

was featured in Vol. 35 of the *Saxophone Journal*. The quartet was invited to be on the only saxophone quartet on the roster for the New York Classical Music Society in 2013, based out of New York City. Zzyzx Quartet is a Yamaha Performing Artist, exclusively playing Yamaha Saxophones, and a D'Addario Performing Artist that endorses D'Addario Reserve Reeds.

## ARMANDO BAYOLO

Born in 1973 in Santurce, Puerto Rico to Cuban parents, composer Armando Bayolo began musical studies at the age of twelve. At sixteen he went on to study at the prestigious Interlochen Arts Academy in Interlochen, Michigan, where he first began the serious study of composition. He holds degrees from the Eastman School of Music (B.M. 1995), where his teachers were Samuel Adler, Joseph Schwantner and Christopher Rouse; Yale University (M.M. 1997), where he studied with Roberto Sierra, Jacob Druckman, Ingram Marshall and Martin Bresnick; and the University of Michigan (D.M.A. 2001) where he studied with Michael Daugherty, Bright Sheng and Evan Chambers. Mr. Bayolo has been hailed for his “suggestive aural imagination” (*El Nuevo Día*) in works that are “full of lush ideas and a kind of fierce grandeur, (unfolding) with subtle, driving power” (*The Washington Post*). His “music combines the audacity of popular music, the verve-filled rhythmic language of Latin America, and the pugnacity of postmodern classicism into a heady, formidable concoction” (*Sequenza21*), and “deserves to be heard many more times, and in many more places. It is new, it is fresh, and it gets its message across” (*The Charlotte Observer*) “with quite a high degree of poetic expressiveness” (*Music-Web International*).

Mr. Bayolo's music is routinely performed throughout the world. Renowned collaborators include soloists Jeffrey Weisner (double bass), Cornelius Dufallo (violin), D.J. Sparr (electric guitar), Vicky Chow (piano), Erika Dohi (piano), Kathleen Suppove (piano), Natalie Spehar (cello); conductors Mei-Ann Chen Mei-Anne Chen, Tian Ng Hui, Thomas McCauley, Joseph Higgins, Christopher Westover, David Vickerman, Christopher Hisey, Julian Wachner, Carlo Boccadoro, Maximiano Valdés, and the late J. Reilly Lewis; and ensembles like Loadbang, the Society for New Music, the Grand Valley State University New Music Ensemble, the Euclid, Beo, and Bleeker ST Quartets, Invoke, H2 Quartet, SOLI Chamber Ensemble, The Carolina Master Chorale, Orfeón San Juan Bautista, the Victory Players, Sentieri Selvaggi, Lontano, The Percussion Plus Ensemble, Hexnut, and orchestras and wind ensem-

bles throughout the world. He has received important commissions from the Aspen Music Festival, the South Jutlands Symphony Orchestra (Denmark), the Chicago Sinfonietta, the Puerto Rico Symphony Orchestra, Orquesta Nacional de Venezuela, the Greater Connecticut Youth Symphony, the Western Piedmont Symphony, the National Gallery of Art, Washington Chorus, Washington Choral Arts Society, and the wind ensembles of San Jose State University, Rowan University, Montclair State University, The College of New Jersey, Hartwick College, Oregon State University, The University of Oregon, The Ohio State University, The University of Maryland, and The Eastman School of Music, among many others. Mr. Bayolo has received recognition from organizations like the Aspen Music Festival, the Fromm Music Foundation, the Music Department at the National Gallery of Art, the Arts Councils of North Carolina and Iowa, The Minnesota Orchestra and American Composers Forum, the Cintas Foundation, the Consortium for a Strong Minority Presence, the all-Virginia Intercollegiate Band, the Festival Interamericano de las Artes (Puerto Rico), and the MacDowell Colony.

Mr. Bayolo is an “adventurous, imaginative and fiercely committed” (*The Washington Post*) advocate for contemporary music in American culture. From 2005-2021 he was the Artistic Director of Great Noise Ensemble, which he founded as a grass roots effort on the website Craig's List, in 2005. From 2011-2014, of the New Music at the Atlas series for the Atlas Performing Arts Center in Washington, which was hailed at the time as “a key destination for anyone interested in new American music” (*The Washington Post*).

With Great Noise Ensemble, Mr. Bayolo led several world and regional premieres of music by a diverse group of composers, both emerging and established, like Joel Puckett, D.J. Sparr, Robert Paterson, Hannah Lash, Carlos Carrillo, Ryan Brown, David T. Little, David Smooke, John Adams, Michael Daugherty, Steve Reich, John Luther Adams, Frederic Rzewski, Poul Ruders, Ken Ueno, Gabriela Lena Frank, Martin Bresnick, Sean Doyle, Marc Mellits, Arlene Sierra, Eric Nathan, and Louis Andriessen. As a conductor of “precision, imagination and tangible electricity” (*The Washington Post*), Mr. Bayolo led Great Noise Ensemble to become the premiere contemporary music ensemble in Washington, D.C. and one of the most important new music ensembles in the U.S. He has specialized, particularly, in the music of Louis Andriessen, leading the first professional American ensemble performance of *De Materie* in 2010 and of *La Commedia* during the 2013-14 season as part of a week-long

festival of Andriessen's music he curated in honor of the composer's 75th birthday in 2014.

Mr. Bayolo has been featured on Public Radio International's *Studio 360* broadcast out of WNYC in New York and on the NPR program *Fresh Ink* broadcast out of WCNY in Syracuse, WQXR's Q2, as well as the Washington Post and the New York Times' Opinionator Blog. He has contributed articles to *New Music Box* and *Sequenza21*, where he was a Contributing Editor until 2011. As an educator, he has served on the music faculties of Reed College, Hamilton College, the Peabody Conservatory of Johns Hopkins University, and Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, where he coordinated the Outside the Box new music festival. From 2013-15, he served as guest faculty with the Charlotte New Music Festival. He is a 2018 MacDowell Colony Fellow, and the recipient of a 2011 Fromm Foundation grant from Harvard University, the 2008 Brandon Fradd fellowship in music composition from the Cintas Foundation, a fellowship from the Consortium for a Strong Minority Presence from 2006-2008 and various other awards and honors from the American Composers Forum, the University of Michigan, BMI, ASCAP and the arts councils of Iowa and North Carolina. His cello concerto, *Orfei Mors* and the cantata, *Kaddish: Passio: Rothko*, were each nominated for the Pulitzer Prize in music. Mr. Bayolo's music can be heard on the Sono Luminus, Inova, New Focus, and Great Noise labels and is published by his own imprint, Olibel Music and available through [Murphy Music Press](http://MurphyMusicPress.com) and his web site, [www.armandobayolo.com](http://www.armandobayolo.com).

Dr. Thomas McCauley is the Director of University Bands in the John J. Cali School of Music, Montclair State University, New Jersey. There, he conducts the Montclair State University Wind Symphony, the MSU Symphonic Band, and teaches both graduate and undergraduate conducting. He held similar positions in Indiana, Ohio, and Illinois, in addition to teaching high school instrumental music in Nevada for nine years. Composers including Karel Husa, David Gillingham, Joseph Turrin, Bruce Yurko, Robert

Aldridge, Morten Lauridsen, Armando Bayolo, and O'Neal Douglas have praised his work. Dr. McCauley has twice appeared as a clinician at the Midwest Clinic in Chicago. Each November, he hosts and teaches a symposium at Montclair State University—the *Weekend Wind Conducting Symposium*—with renown guest clinicians and participants from around the world.

Dr. McCauley is in demand as a guest conductor, clinician, and adjudicator throughout North America. Currently a *Conn-Selmer Educational Clinician*, the Nevada Music Educators Association named Dr. McCauley *Music Educator of the Year (1995)*; the Indiana Music Educators Association honored him with the *Outstanding University Music Educator Award (2006)*. He serves on the Executive Board of the New Jersey Band Association, is the New Jersey State Representative of the College Band Directors National Association, and is the former New Jersey State Representative of the National Band Association. He is an active member of the World Association for Symphonic Bands and Ensembles, and the National Association for Music Education. He has published in *The Instrumentalist*, several state music education magazines, in the second edition of *Teaching Music Through Performance in Band, Vol I* (G.I.A. Publications), and is author of *Adventures in Band Building: How to Turn a Less-Than-It-Could-Be into More-Than-It-Should-Be* (G.I.A. Publications, 2015).

Graduate conducting student Scott Byers is in the second year of his Master of Music – Concentration in Conducting degree in the John J. Cali School of Music, where he is a conducting student of Dr. Thomas McCauley. This is his first appearance as a conductor with the Montclair State University Wind Symphony. In addition to his graduate studies at Montclair State, Scott is a full time professional music educator and the Associate Director of Bands at Wayne Valley

High School in Wayne, New Jersey, where he co-directs the Symphonic Band, Marching Band, Jazz Band, and serves as an instructor in the Instrumental Instruction program. Prior to his appointment at Wayne Valley High School, Scott Byers served as the director of bands at Merrick Avenue Middle School on Long Island, where he taught 7th-grade band, 8th-grade band, and Jazz Band. Scott holds an undergraduate degree in Music Education and Saxophone Performance (magna cum laude) from Ithaca College.