

### *Russian Christmas Music*

Originally written in November 1944, Russian Christmas Music was first performed in December of that year in Denver, Colorado. Two years later, the piece was elaborated and revised, and in that form was one of the three prize-winning work in the 1947 Columbia University contest for new serious music for symphonic band. An ancient Russian Christmas Carol (Carol of the Little Russian Children) is mixed with motives from orthodox liturgical music from the Eastern Orthodox Church. Though set as a single piece, the composer originally subtitled the four easily separated sections Children's Carol, Antiphonal Chant, Village Song, and Cathedral Chorus.

### *The University of Arizona Wind Symphony*

#### *Flute*

Briana George  
Ayla Delaney  
Meggie Keung  
Elizabeth Coryea

#### *Oboe*

Bianca Ortega  
Anna Bauer  
Aurora Watson

#### *English Horn*

Anna Bauer

#### *Clarinet*

Anthony Perkins  
Christian Peterson  
Grace Hoskinson  
Taylon Peto  
Isaac Andrade  
Janice Jang  
Karlee Connors  
Jeffery White  
Melissa Pielow  
Savana McNeill

#### *Bass Clarinet*

Holly Albrecht

#### *Alto Saxophone*

Maya Armendariz  
Christopher Ogier  
Eduardo Macias  
Grace Kennedy  
Eduardo Walker

#### *Tenor Saxophone*

Jake Morey  
Brook Taylor

#### *Baritone Saxophone*

Benjamin Courtney

#### *Trumpet*

Mikah Rosanova  
Samuel Dahl  
Harry Go  
Benjamin Loreto  
Kyra Covey  
Steven Phillips  
Alejandro Castro Jimenez

#### *Horn*

Cole Evans  
Roxanna Luna

#### *Trombone*

Madeline Moeller  
Harissen Aron  
Jake Harker  
Grant Hoffman

#### *Euphonium*

Jordan Figueroa  
Marcelino Medley  
Thomas Koenig

#### *Tuba*

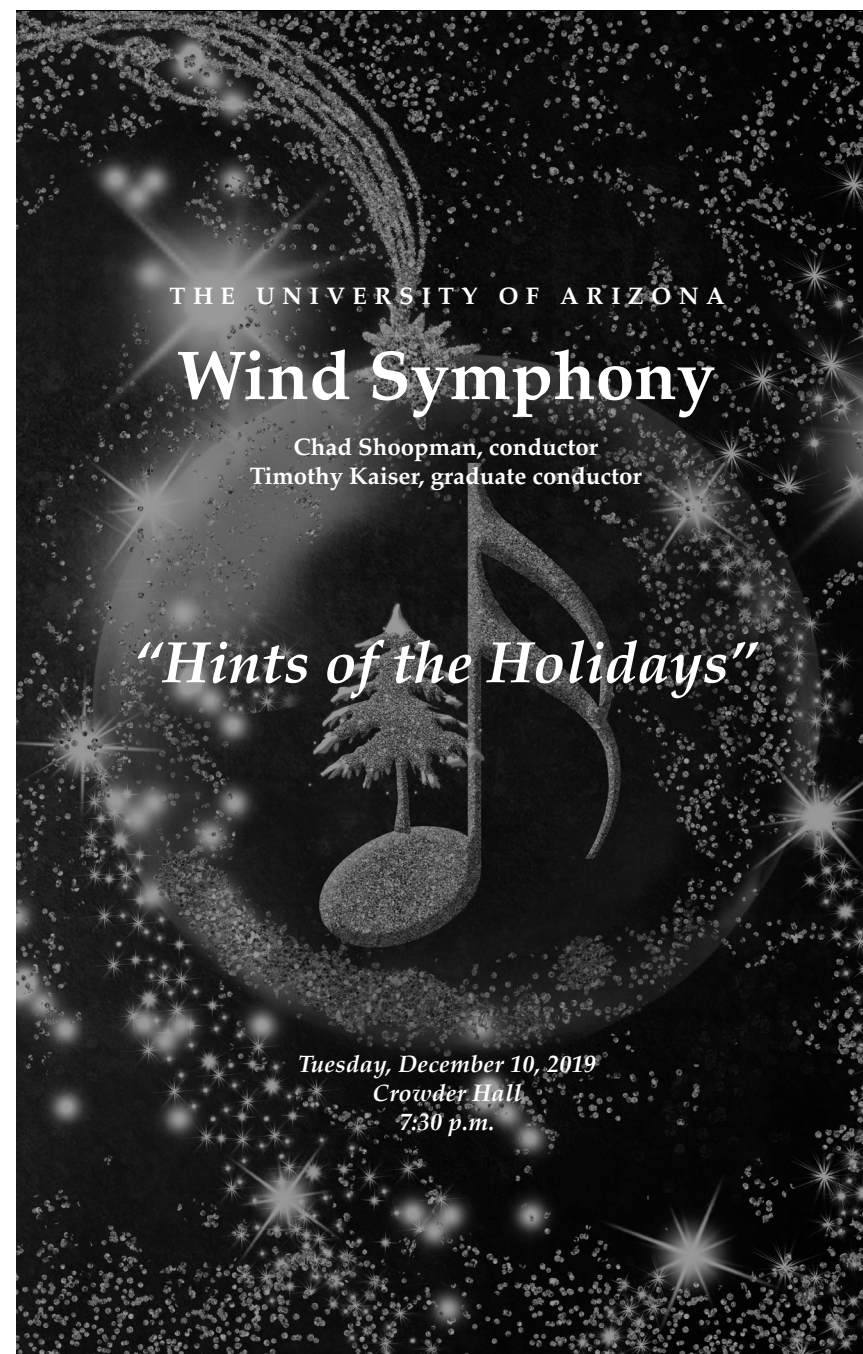
Jake Buchen  
Edward Palmenberg  
Antonio Heredia  
Kathleen Cluff

#### *Percussion*

Michal Brauhn  
Ross Ackerman  
Nicholas Hubbard  
Jayden Hazel  
Tristan Morgan  
Gregery Bartolic  
Jeremy Hook

#### *String Bass*

Erik Syliaasen



THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA

## *Wind Symphony*

Chad Shoopman, conductor  
Timothy Kaiser, graduate conductor

### *“Hints of the Holidays”*

Tuesday, December 10, 2019  
Crowder Hall  
7:30 p.m.

#### PROGRAM

*Sinfonia Nobilissima*..... Robert Jager  
(b. 1939)

*Polonaise from “Christmas Eve Suite”* ..... Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov  
(1844-1908)

*An Original Suite* ..... Gordon Jacob  
(1895-1984)

*Russian Christmas Music*..... Alfred Reed  
(1921-2005)

## *Program Notes*

### *Sinfonia Nobilissima*

“This overture is a work in the neo-romantic style and is in three sections. After a short introduction, a dramatic and syncopated fast section begins. After several false climaxes, as well as a brief fugue, the slow, more emotional middle section begins. In the final section of the work, a fast, syncopated style abruptly returns and the overture ends with several deceptive, then complete chords.”

-Robert Jager

### *Polonaise from “Christmas Eve Suite”*

Rimsky-Korsakov’s *CHRISTMAS EVE* was originally an opera in four acts and was based on a short story by Nikolay Gogol (earlier, Tchaikovsky had written an opera based on the same story). Rimsky-Korsakov compiled a suite of pieces from the opera a few years later. The opera itself features supernatural elements that seem better suited to Halloween than Christmas: one Christmas eve, in the little Ukrainian town of Dikanka, a broomstick-riding widow agrees to help the Devil steal the moon. The widow’s son Vakula, however, has annoyed the Devil, who decides to interfere with Vakula’s courtship of Oksana, the girl he loves. Over the course of a single night not only is the moon stolen away, but Vakula captures the Devil and magically travels to St. Petersburg to the court of the tsaritsa. The Polonaise you will hear is a version of the music the petitioners at the court sing to praise and honor her. Just as Oksana thinks Vakula is lost and perhaps dead, he reappears to ask her to marry him—and all ends happily.

- Program notes from Central Wisconsin Symphony Orchestra

### *An Original Suite*

Gordon Jacob (1895-1984) was a prolific British composer, arranger, teacher, conductor, and author. His oeuvre included over seven hundred chamber, solo, choral, and orchestral works as well as compositions for brass and wind band. Jacob composed “An Original Suite” as a student attending the Royal Academy of Music in 1924. Previously, he had transcribed Vaughan Williams’ “English Folk Song Suite” from wind band to orchestra and developed an interest in writing for military band. By Jacob’s description, the title was given to the work by his publisher, Boosey and Hawkes. “At that time,” he recalled, “very little original music was being written for what was then ‘military band,’ so the title was a way of distinguishing that it was an original work rather than an arrangement...”. The suite’s three movements provide compelling contrasts—from the stately “March” to the “Intermezzo” (inspired by Irish folk music), to the sprightly, upbeat “Finale”.

-Program Notes from score