

Sacred Winds Ensemble
Scott Bersaglia, Music Director

FLUTE

Christina Bishop, Campbellsville, KY
Martha Gasque, Myrtle Beach, SC
Ann Harkins, Prestonsburg, KY
Nell Givens, Elizabethtown, KY
Meredith Patton, Lebanon Junction, KY

Oboe

Scott Sams, Louisville, KY
Allison Weitkamp, Lexington, KY
(English Horn)

CLARINET

Maura Adamson, Lexington, KY
Judy Allstatter, Cincinnati, OH
Joshua Artz, Goose Creek, SC
Betsy Burkhardt, Harlan, KY
Dennis McElroy, Lexington, KY
Stephanie Mora, Elizabethtown, KY
Melissa Stultz, Paoli, IN
Megan Watson, Greenville, KY
Audrey Worrell, Richmond, KY

BASS CLARINET

Willow Cooper, Lexington, KY
Megan Watson, Greenville, KY
(Eb Contralto)

BASSOON

Tara Brown, London, KY
Stephanie Konchel, Troy, MI
Will Peebles, Cullowhee, NC
(Contrabassoon)

SAXOPHONE

Jenny L. Collins, Goose Creek, SC
Jim Geiger, Gallatin, TN
David Jump, Prestonsburg, KY
Chris Spivey, Owensboro, KY
Charles Weitkamp, Lexington, KY

TRUMPET

Stacy Coker, Moncks Corner, SC
Ryan Ervin, Portsmouth, OH
Tyler Jones, Richmond, KY
Kyle Knepper, Lafayette, IN
Connor May, Indianapolis, IN
Shannon B. Seals, Raceland, KY
John Surgener, Lexington, KY
John VanderGheynst, Austin, TX
Joel Watson, Greenville, KY

HORN

Michael Baker, Lexington, KY
Rebecca Fathman, Falcon, CO
Jody Hurt, Prestonsburg, KY
Nancy Waring, Florence, SC

TROMBONE

Rusty Crimm, Pewee Valley, KY
Adam Dixon, Ashland, KY
Sam Fields, Mt. Sterling, KY
Evan Hatter, Edgewood, KY
Tyler Simms, Madisonville, KY

BASS TROMBONE

Michael Bourne, Ft. Worth, TX

EUPHONIUM

David Centers, Louisville, KY
Shelly Molinary, Saint Paul, VA

TUBA

Lawrence Banks, Lexington, KY
Bruce Harkins, Prestonsburg, KY
Jason Sturgill, Wise, VA

PERCUSSION

Cory Barnes, Rineyville, KY
Korry Friend, Troy, OH
Adam Hopper, Somerset, KY
Jason Kercheval, Sheridan, IN
Michael Mather, Elizabethtown, KY
John Tyree, Mt. Sterling, KY

PIANO

Jennifer H. Bersaglia, Prestonsburg, KY

DOUBLE BASS

Andrey Goncalves, Vitoria, Brazil

Members are listed alphabetically as recognition of each person's invaluable contributions to the ensemble.

MUSIC DIRECTOR

Scott Bersaglia is Founder and Music Director of the Sacred Winds Ensemble and Chairman of Sacred Winds Ministries. He is also Director of Bands for Pikeville Independent Schools where he oversees and directs the district's instrumental music curriculum. Prior conducting positions include Associate Professor of Conducting at Campbellsville University, Orchestra Conductor of The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary Orchestra, and Assistant Director of Bands at the University of Michigan. He has worked with noted composers Donald Grantham, Evan Chambers, John Vander Gheynst, and David Maslanka, and Pulitzer-Prize winning composers William Bolcom and Steven Stucky. A Kentucky native, Dr. Bersaglia received his Bachelors of Music Education from Morehead State University and the Masters of Music and Doctor of Music Arts degrees from The University of Texas at Austin. His conducting teachers include Jerry Junkin, Richard Miles, and Greg Detweiler. Dr. Bersaglia lives in Prestonsburg with his wife, Jennifer, and their daughters, Isabella Matea and Emmaline Grace.

IN CHRIST ALONE

Sacred Winds Ensemble
Scott Bersaglia, Music Director

All Hail The Power of Jesus' Name (2014)

Unending Stream of Life (2007)

- i. Overture: "All Creatures of Our God and King"
- ii. Seeking
- iii. Brooding March
- iv. As you proceed to your certain end, what is the point of being alive?
- v. A hard thought that turns out alright
- vi. A sweet tune
- vii. "All Creatures of Our God and King"

Voyage of Discovery (2000)

Just A Closer Walk With Thee (2003, ed. 2015)

CORONATION

Setting by Barry Milner (b. 1973)

David Maslanka (b. 1943)

Jody J. Nagel (b. 1960)

John Vander Gheynst (b. 1974)

COMPOSERS

David Maslanka attended the Oberlin College Conservatory where he studied composition with Joseph Wood, and did masters and doctoral study in composition at Michigan State University where his principal teacher was H. Owen Reed. Dr. Maslanka's compositions are published by Maslanka Press, Carl Fischer, Kjos Music, Marimba Productions, and OU Percussion Press. They have been recorded on Albany, Reference Recordings, Naxos, and Klavier labels, among others. Since 1990 he has been a freelance composer. He now lives in Missoula, Montana.

Barry Milner received the Bachelor of Music for musical composition and the Bachelor of Music Education from Morehead State University, and the Master of Music Education from the University of Arkansas. An avid composer/arranger of wind band and orchestral literature, his works have been performed by the Dallas Winds Brass Section and Percussion Section, The University of Arkansas Wind Symphony, and honor bands across the country. He is a member of ASCAP.

Jody J. Nagel joined the Ball State University School of Music faculty in the Autumn of 1992. The same year, he received the Doctor of Musical Arts degree in composition from The University of Texas at Austin. He also holds a Master of Arts in music theory and composition from the University of Pittsburgh and a Bachelor of Arts from Marietta College. His principal composition teachers include Eugene Kurtz, Morton Subotnick, Stephen Montague, Dan Welcher, Donald Grantham, and Russell Pinkston.

John Vander Gheynst has been commissioned to compose for a variety of genres including jazz orchestra, chamber ensemble, gospel, music for theater, brass quintet, and wind ensemble. His Day Suite, originally written for The University of Texas Jazz Orchestra, won the Downbeat Award for Best Extended Work for Jazz Ensemble. He is in continual demand as a freelance studio and live performance musician in the classical, jazz, and musical theater genres. He holds a Doctoral of Music Arts Degree in Composition and Performance from The University of Texas at Austin.

SACREDWINDS
SCOTT BERSAGLIA, DIRECTOR

He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. For by Him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through Him and for Him. And He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together. And He is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn, that in everything He might be preeminent. For through Him the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through Him to reconcile to Himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by His blood of His cross. And you, who once were alienated and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, He has now reconciled in His body of flesh by His death, in order to present you holy and blameless and above reproach before Him, if indeed you continue in the faith, stable and steadfast, not shifting from the hope of the gospel that you heard, which has been proclaimed in all creation under heaven. - Colossians 1:15-23a

IN CHRIST ALONE

SACREDWINDS.ORG

Unbeknown to Sacred Winds, this album began fifteen years ago with the commission and premiere of Jody Nagel's *Voyage of Discovery*. It was in 2000 that the Sacred Winds Commissioning Project was begun out of our desire to create musical compositions that fuse the characteristics and qualities of art music with biblical truth. While this album highlights works commissioned and premiered by the Sacred Winds, it is Scripture that frames its structure, specifically Colossians 1:15-23a.

In this passage, the Apostle Paul, under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, gives us one of the great Christological passages found in the New Testament. Paul decrees Christ's divine nature, His authority over all things, man's depravity and need of God, and the way in which man may be reconciled to God: the Gospel. To dive into these gracious truths, our program systematically unpacks the Colossians passage through instrumental music.

Paul begins Colossians 1:15 with, "He [Christ] is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation." In one sentence, Christ is proclaimed to be the exact image of God. This, indeed, is a glorious truth: to know that God has descended to man in order that man may know Him. In His justice, God could have allowed man to suffer eternally, but because of His gracious love toward us, God sent Christ, His exact representative, so that we may know God and Christ, which is eternal life (John 17:3). To declare our firm "Amen" to this truth, the album begins with Barry Milner's setting of *All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name*. Mr. Milner's setting points to the truths found within the hymn text:

**All hail the power of Jesus' name!
Let angels prostrate fall.
Bring forth the royal diadem,
And crown Him Lord of all.**

**Let every tongue and every tribe
Responsive to his call.
To Him all majesty ascribe,
And crown Him Lord of all!**

**O chosen seed of Israel's chosen race
Now ransomed from the fall,
Hail Him Who saves you by His grace,
And crown Him Lord of all.**

**Oh, that with all the sacred throng
We at His feet may fall!
We'll join the everlasting song
And crown Him Lord of all.**

When this hymn's words were penned by Edward Perronet, it's as if he had been meditating on Colossians 1:16-20 where Paul speaks of Christ's authorship as Creator. Being careful not to leave out any aspect of the creator, Paul lists that Christ created things that have earthly – temporal – authority: thrones, dominions, rulers, and authorities. So not only is Christ the agent of the created order, He is the creator of any and all earthly authoritative figures. This is a sobering and humbling thought because it positions Christ not only as supreme over any authority, but the creator of those authorities. In other words, without Christ those authorities would be nonexistent, let alone have anything to rule.

Paul takes Christ's authority to an even higher level, stating "all things were created through Him and for Him." Paul declares that Christ created all things through Himself and for Himself. As the agent of creation, Christ has created all things solely for His glory. To the believer, this is comforting news indeed. Yet, the unbeliever scoffs at such a statement. Proverbs 21:24 says, "Scoffer" is the name of the arrogant, haughty man who acts with arrogant pride." The unbeliever ascribes sovereignty over his own life, giving no glory to God, but having instead a hostile mind toward Christ. As the Psalmist wrote, "The fool says in his heart, "There is no God." They are corrupt, they do abominable deeds, there is none who does good" (Psa 14:1).

We hear about the scoffer in David Maslanka's *Unending Stream of Life*. With movements entitled *Seeking*, *Broadening March*, and *As you proceed to your certain end, what is the point of being alive?*, the ensemble provides an aural picture of the scoffer and the fool. It is in the middle of the fifth movement, however, where the scoffer's struggle is overtaken with submission, as if he hears the call of Isaiah 55:6 being pronounced: "Seek the Lord while He may be found; call upon Him while He is near."

Following this call, the remainder of the piece gives way to music that brings comfort. In movement six, *A Sweet Tune*, we hear for the first time the sublime

simplicity, beauty, and the elating freedom of the Gospel. Now believing the Gospel, the once-scoffer readily confesses, "[Christ] is the head of the church, the firstborn from the dead so that in everything He might pre eminent. For in Him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through Him to reconcile to Himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of the cross" (Col 1:17-20). The scoffer is now grafted into Christ's body, the Church.

Though the scoffer was "once alienated and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, [Christ] has now reconciled in His body of flesh by His death, in order to present [him] holy and blameless and above reproach before [God], if indeed [he] continue in the faith, stable and steadfast, not shifting from the hope of the gospel that you heard, which has been proclaimed in all creation under heaven" (Col 1:21-23b). The ensemble unpacks this verse by coupling two works: *Voyage of Discovery* by Jody Nagel and John Vander Gheynst's *Just a Closer Walk with Thee*.

Voyage of Discovery is a setting of the well-known hymn *Praise to the Lord the Almighty*. The composer writes, "The motive is used repeatedly throughout the piece and in many different harmonic guises. The motive, which is used as a metaphor for God, is willed. The work ranges from the dramatic through the poetic, but it is only the final statement of the partly reharmonized actual hymn tune where the clarity of the motive's 'true' identity is triumphantly revealed."

As Nagel's work plays out, one can hear Paul's description of a person "alienated and hostile in mind...now reconciled...[one] holy and blameless." It's as if Nagel's final program note confesses the clarity God brings to the renewed mind: "Most of the ingredients of the composition return for the final statement of the chorale melody... They had served to mask the identity of the principle motive [God]; however, by the work's end, their presence no longer interferes with the recognition of the source of that principal motive: the chorale *Praise Ye the Lord*. The motive [God] has been there all along. One simply needed to realize it."

Following *Voyage of Discovery*, the ensemble unpacks Col 1:23a, which states, "if indeed you continue in the faith, stable and steadfast, not shifting from the hope of the gospel that you heard." John Vander Gheynst's setting of *Just a Closer Walk with Thee* takes the traditional hymn through a series of twists and turns, ranging from traditional New Orleans Dixieland combo, a somber procession, a lively scherzo, and an exhilarating ending. These varying sections portray the journey a Christian has throughout his life, all the while depending upon the Holy Spirit to keep him from "shifting from the hope of the gospel that you heard" while on that journey.

This album serves to honor all things Christ has done on our behalf: our Creator, Sustainer, Redeemer and Friend. It also ascribes all majesty and power for the great things He is and has done.

The image of the invisible God:

The Firstborn of all creation:

The Creator of all things:

The Head of the Body, the church;

He is the beginning

the Firstborn from the dead.

Because of His attributes, we can put our full faith and assurance in Christ to save us from our sins because "in Him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through Him to reconcile to Himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross."

May this album convict you of the truths of the Gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes (Rom 1:16).

Soli Deo Gloria.



Glen Scott Bersaglia
Music Director, Sacred Winds Ensemble



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To obtain the conductor's score and ensemble parts to the works featured on this album, visit:
Milner: *All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name* bmilner1973@gmail.com
Maslanka: *Unending Stream of Life* www.davidmaslanka.com
Nagel: *Voyage of Discovery* www.jomar.press
Vander Gheynst: *Just a Closer Walk with Thee* www.johnvg.com/composition

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SACRED WINDS MINISTRIES, INC.

Sacred Winds Ministries, Inc. mission is to provide Christian outreach through music and education. Chartered in February 2008, Sacred Winds Ministries, Inc. qualifies as a 501(c)3 non-profit public charity and is in strict compliance with all requirements of federal, state, and local authorities. Sacred Winds Ministries, Inc. is the governing body to the Sacred Winds Ensemble.

Mission Statement

Sacred Winds Ministries, Inc. exists to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ by providing opportunities that edify people in Biblical knowledge and understanding. Therefore, in defense and confirmation of the Gospel, and undergirded by the ministry of music, the organization seeks to:

provide study, sound teaching, and exposition of the Holy Scriptures;

assist people in the areas of the music, music ministry, discipleship, and curriculum; and

present lectures, services, concerts, educational symposia, and collaborative projects that assist in the spiritual development of individuals and the church.

SACRED WINDS ENSEMBLE

Founded in 1997 by Scott Bersaglia, the Sacred Winds Ensemble presents concerts focusing on the everlasting truth of God and His son, Jesus Christ. The ensemble's initial purpose was to provide an expansive musical compliment to the worship service of Petrey Memorial Baptist, the conductor's home church. Since then, the ensemble has unfolded into a ministering body spreading the Word of a sovereign and personal God.

The Sacred Winds Ensemble Commissioning Project was established in 2000 and encompasses works for wind, string, and choral ensembles as well as multi-media pieces. In 2007, David Maslanka was commissioned to write a work commemorating the groups' ten-year anniversary. The result was *Unending Stream of Life*.

The ensemble embarked on their first tour performing at the 2008 Baptist Music Conference National Convention in New Orleans, LA, with accompanying performances in Kentucky and Tennessee. In February 2010, the group performed at the Kentucky Music Educators Association State Conference, and in 2012 at the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

Noted guest artists of the Sacred Winds Ensemble include Jerry Junkin and James Curnow, guest conductors; Teresa Alzadon, soprano; Judson Perry, tenor; and Jody J. Nagel, J. Daniel Jenkins, Thomas Root, Craig Biondi, John Vander Gheynst, James Curnow, and David Maslanka, composers-in-residence. The Sacred Winds Ensemble is comprised of volunteer musicians from across the United States and abroad and is under the governing body of Sacred Winds Ministries, Inc.

Mission Statement

The Sacred Winds Ensemble was founded upon the core beliefs that the highest excellence in music-making should be found within the Christian community as a symbol of our reverence and adoration of a perfect God and that music as an art form and an act of worship can have powerful and transforming effects when based upon the truths of the Holy Scriptures. For these reasons, the ensemble seeks to:

renew the spirit of excellence once found within Christendom in respect to music making, promoting no agenda of musical styles, idioms, or preferences, but seeking freedom from human limitations through dependence upon the Holy Spirit of God in the programming, commissioning, and performing of sacred repertoire;

commission new works and arrangements of the highest caliber by today's art music composers for the expansion of repertoire;

foster the appreciation of music in the community through innovative programming and artistic performances while maintaining accessibility to our audiences;

allow musicians, both professional and amateur, to enjoy the high calling of making music for the glorification of God and as a ministry to others; and

present the Gospel of Jesus Christ unashamedly.

For more information, visit www.sacredwinds.org or [Facebook.com/SacredWinds](https://www.facebook.com/SacredWinds).