

SCHOOL OF MUSIC, THEATRE, AND DANCE

SERIES CONCERT  
**Virtuoso**

DREW LESLIE | TROMBONE

JOHN MCGUIRE | HORN

SEPT. 12, 2023 | 7:30 P.M.  
**ORGAN RECITAL HALL**



COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY



**DREW LESLIE / TROMBONE AND JOHN MCGUIRE / HORN**

SEPTEMBER 12, 2023 7:30 P.M. | ORGAN RECITAL HALL

**PROGRAM**

**La Viuda de Salamanca**

**Kerry Turner (b. 1960)**

John McGuire-horn

**Cloudbreak- for horn, trombone, and fixed media**

**James Naigus (b. 1987)**

John McGuire-horn, Drew Leslie-trombone

**Three Pieces for Horn and Trombone**

**John Sipher**

- I. On the Tip of a Dandelion Seed
- II. Duet for a Time of Isolation
- III. Flight Aggression

John McGuire-horn, Drew Leslie-trombone

**Nocturne**

**Traci Mendel (b. 1964)**

John McGuire-horn, Tim Burns-piano

**Three Summits: Concerto for Trombone**

**James David (b. 1978)**

- I. Mount of the Holy Cross
- II. Town of Independence, Population 1
- III. Race to the Clouds

Drew Leslie-trombone, Tim Burns-piano

**Casbah of Tetouan**

**Kerry Turner (b. 1960)**

John McGuire, DeAunn Davis, David Smalley,  
Colleen Perry Shaffer-horns, Drew Leslie-trombone

## PROGRAM NOTES

### ***La Viuda de Salamanca (The Widow of Salamanca)* by Kerry Turner**

The composer had this haunting melody floating around in his head for weeks before finally deciding to use it in this piece. However, an appropriate title proved elusive. After playing the piece several times, listeners began to give suggestions, basing them on impressions they had while listening. The consensus seemed to be that this song is about a person, man or woman, lamenting a lost love. Moreover, everyone seemed to think it sounded rather Spanish, thus "The Widow of Salamanca" was born. Draped in a traditional black Spanish widow's costume, her mind wanders back through the past, remembering the passionate lover whom she married many years ago.

### ***Cloudbreak* by James Naigus**

*Cloudbreak* for horn, trombone, and fixed media was written in 2021. It was commissioned by Cormont Music for Horn Camp Connect: Winterlude 2021, written for Bernhard Scully and Jesse McCormick, and is dedicated to the memory of those lost in the previous year.

### ***Nocturne* by Traci Mendel**

*Nocturne*, for horn and piano, was composed in 2000 for hornist John McGuire's birthday. Embedded in the chords is the opening melody from Strauss's *Horn Concerto #1*, which John was working on at that time.

### ***Three Summits* by James David**

Since moving to my adoptive home of Colorado, the state's rugged landscape has never ceased to enchant and inspire me. Most iconic are the Colorado Fourteeners: the mighty peaks above 14,000 feet that call to adventurous people throughout the world. My new concerto for trombone depicts views of three such mountains from different angles and different seasons to create a hopefully engaging meeting of my favorite instrument and my home. First is the Mount of the Holy Cross viewed in midsummer. This famous peak with a distinctive cross-shaped snowfield is depicted in all its glory after a steady ascent from the nearby Vail Valley with a few references to famous Christian hymns. Next is Mount Elbert seen from Independence in midwinter. The ghost town of Independence sits near Colorado's highest peak in a pristine alpine valley and only one resident remained after the brutal 1899 winter. Hushed, faintly

remembered campfire songs waft through the naked aspens, frozen lakes, and skeletal cabins. Last is the notorious Pikes Peak Hill Climb also known as The Race to the Clouds. Early each summer since 1916, daring auto racers summit the only Fourteener accessible by motor vehicle. Raucous engines and death-defying curves provide for an aggressive and white-knuckle ride to the top and a hopefully breathless conclusion to the concerto.

### ***Casbah of Tetouan* by Kerry Turner**

The *Casbah of Tetouan* was conceived during a visit to Morocco in the summer of 1988. The composer offers the following anecdote: "As we crossed the Straits of Gibraltar and first laid eyes on the North African coast, I knew we were in store for an adventure! The city of Tetouan was our destination; we were soon standing before its main gates. As we entered the city, the many exotic new sights, complementing the wild sounds and smells of the bustling ancient city, overran our senses. After proceeding only a few feet past hobbled live chickens, we found ourselves immersed completely in the endless, tiny alleys of the Casbah. It was a labyrinth of tunnels and passageways, lined with vendors and shops the size of walk-in closets. Anything could be had, including copperware, sacks of spices and grains, and silk. Street butchers displayed slaughtered lambs, goats and pigs, and a snake charmer with his cobra unnerved the unwary passersby. Somewhere around the urine-treated leather goods things began to swim before my eyes. After I informed the guide that I was ill, a young boy was sent to escort me to a quiet place. The boy knew every secret passage and shortcut in the Casbah. He led me through even tinier streets and tunnels, across nomad camps, and even through a kitchen! We sailed through the back door of a mosque, and out the other side. Finally we entered a large, dark and cool house, which seemed to be some sort of palace. The boy led me to a back room and laid me down upon a bed of large pillows. I passed out. I awoke thoroughly disoriented. The first things I saw were six elaborately cloaked elderly men, wildly discussing in Arabic what could possibly be wrong with me. I heard exotic music, and aromatic food assailed my senses. After closer observation I discovered I was in a fancy restaurant, being entertained by a belly dancer. Somehow my wife and brother found me, and we resumed our inspection of Tetouan. I still felt lightheaded and rather doped by the "therapeutic" tea; my impressions of the city were somewhat hallucinogenic." The *Casbah of Tetouan* has been recorded on CD by the American Horn Quartet and is available on the EBS label

**DR. DREW LESLIE**, a native of Ann Arbor, Michigan, joined the faculty of Colorado State University School of Music, Theatre, and Dance in Fall 2019 and currently serves as associate professor of trombone and Undergraduate Coordinator. Prior to CSU, Dr. Leslie was associate professor of trombone at the Hayes School of Music at Appalachian State University.

Active as a solo, chamber, and orchestral musician, Dr. Leslie has performance experience in a wide variety of settings. He has played with the symphony orchestras of Colorado, Boulder, Colorado Springs, Fort Collins, Greeley, Cheyenne (Wyoming), Hawai'i, Charlotte (North Carolina), Kansas City (Missouri), Eugene (Oregon), Winston-Salem (North Carolina), Greensboro (North Carolina), Austin (Texas), Toledo (Ohio), Kalamazoo (Michigan), and Lansing (Michigan), as well as the Santo Domingo Festival Orchestra of the Dominican Republic and the Aspen Music Festival Orchestra and Chamber Symphony. He has also performed at the Jungfrau Music Festival (Switzerland), the Mid-Europe Festival (Austria), the Wiltz Open-Air Festival (Luxembourg), the Festival Veranos de la Villa (Spain), and has been featured in performances at the International Trombone Festival, the American Trombone Workshop, the Big XII Trombone Conference, and the International Association of Jazz Educators Conference. He played a Midwest tour with Yo-Yo Ma and the Silk Road Ensemble and has accompanied a wide variety of other artists including Wu Tang Clan, the Wailers, Tower of Power, Ray Charles, Bernadette Peters, Jake Shimabukuru and Michael Feinstein. Dr. Leslie has given numerous solo recitals at universities and festivals throughout the country and has been a featured soloist with the CSU Symphony Orchestra, CSU Wind Symphony, Appalachian Symphony Orchestra, Appalachian Wind Ensemble, the MU University Band, the University of Texas Wind Symphony, the Longhorn Summer Band, and the Ann Arbor Concert Band. He is currently a member of the Blue Ridge Trombone Quartet and maintains an active performance schedule across the country.

Equally as passionate about music education, Leslie has maintained active private studios in Colorado, Michigan, Texas, Missouri, and North Carolina and has served on the faculty of the CSU Brass Workshop, Tromboot Camp, Cannon Music Camp and the Longhorn Summer Music Camp. In addition, he worked as a teaching assistant at the University of Texas at Austin and was the visiting assistant professor of trombone at the University of Missouri for two years.

Dr. Leslie received his Doctor of Musical Arts in Trombone Performance from the University of Texas at Austin, his M.M. from the Manhattan School of Music in New York City, and his B.M. from the University of Michigan. Additionally, he spent four summers studying and performing at the Aspen Music Festival and School, including two as a fellowship student. His primary instructors include Nathaniel Brickens, Per Brevig, Michael Powell, David Jackson, H. Dennis Smith, and Jonathan Holtfreter. He is a member of the International Trombone Association, the College Music Society, and the Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia music fraternity.

Drew Leslie is a Conn-Selmer Artist-Clinician and performs on Vincent Bach trombones.

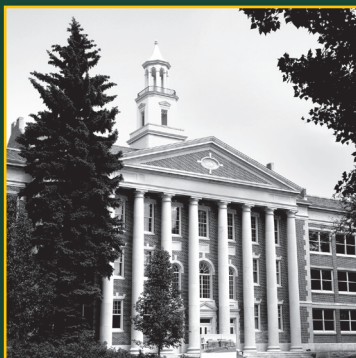
Check out Dr. Leslie's YouTube channel for performance videos: [youtube.com](https://www.youtube.com)

**DR. JOHN MCGUIRE** has a vast array of performance and teaching experiences. He has performed with many orchestras around the country, most notably the Dallas Symphony Orchestra, the Dallas Opera, the Fort Worth Symphony, the New World Symphony in Miami, FL, the Civic Orchestra of Chicago, the Illinois Symphony Orchestra, and the Florida West Coast Symphony.

As a soloist he was awarded the title Yamaha Young Artist, has been a finalist in the American Horn Competition, won several regional solo competitions and has appeared as a guest artist at many workshops, festivals and schools across the United States. With several world-premiere performances to his credit, John is a passionate proponent for the creation of new solo horn literature as well as a sought-after contemporary music performer.

Prior to serving on the faculty of CSU, John served as adjunct instructor of Horn at the University of Alabama, Mississippi State University, Appalachian State University, Texas Women's University, the Music Institute of Chicago, and Florida A&M University. In addition, John maintained a private studio of over fifty students in the Dallas/Fort Worth area public school systems for many years where he was also a prominent clinician and adjudicator. Today, many of John's former students have moved into successful careers as music educators in reputable school systems and have attained positions as orchestral performers in premier ensembles such as the Detroit Symphony Orchestra.

John received his D.M.A. and B.M. in Music Performance from the University of Alabama, his M.M. in Performance from Florida State University, and a Performer's Certificate from the Chicago College of Performing Arts at Roosevelt University in Chicago. His major professors were Charles Skip Snead, William Capps, and Dale Clevenger.



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