

CSU CONCERT ORCHESTRA PRESENTS

UNDER  
THE

# Noontlight

CONDUCTED BY  
**RACHEL WADDELL**

GRADUATE CONDUCTOR  
**ROBERT STAHLY**

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2023 | 4 P.M.**

ORGAN RECITAL HALL | FREE



COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY

# CONCERT ORCHESTRA

DECEMBER 3, 2023 | 4 PM | ORGAN RECITAL HALL

## *Under the Moonlight*

### Program:

*Eine kleine Nachtmusik in G Major, KV 525*

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756-1791)

I. *Allegro*

**Moon Feather Magic**

**Elena Kats-Chernin (b. 1957)**

Rob Stahly, Conductor

*Lullaby to the Moon*

**Brian Balmages (b. 1975)**

Rob Stahly, Conductor

*Moondance*

**Van Morrison (b.1945),**  
arr. Michael Hopkins

Daniel Dominguez Vidal, Piano

Colin Ferry, Drum Set

*Perseus*

**Soon Hee Newbold (b.1974)**

**PERSONNEL:**

**DR. RACHEL WADDELL**, Music Director and Conductor  
**ROB STAHLY**, Assistant Conductor

**Violin Seating for *Perseus* and *Eine kleine Nachtmusik***

**Violin 1:**

Angel Bustillos, Concertmaster on *Perseus*  
Casey Lee, Asst. Concertmaster on *Eine kleine Nachtmusik*  
Patrick Cook  
Hayden Rose  
Marcella Schei  
Ciarra Davis

**Violin 2:**

Scarlett Garsombke, *Principal*  
Case Rasumussen  
Quinn Jenkins  
Nora Kellman  
Andy Romero  
Cheryl Hite  
Jennifer Clary

**Violas:**

Laurel Ave, *Principal*  
Kierra Jewely  
Bella Penna  
Rob Stahly (on *Perseus*, *Eine kleine Nachtmusik*, and *Moondance*)  
Rachel Waddell (on *Moon Feather Magic* and *Lullaby to the Moon*)

**Cellos:**

Eugene Worford, *Principal*  
Amber Davis  
Griffin Foundos  
Sophia Hyman  
Brie Galante  
Kaitlyn Beavers

**Basses:**

Hunter Dominguez, *Co-Principal*  
Sydney Randall, *Co-Principal, Principal on Perseus*  
Quinn Weirdsma  
Wesley Daucsavage  
Carmylla Powers

**Violin Seating for *Moondance*, *Moon Feather Magic*, and *Lullaby to the Moon*:**

**Violin 1:**

Casey Lee, *Concertmaster*  
Scarlett Garsombke  
Case Rasmussen  
Quinn Jenkins  
Nora Kellman  
Ciarra Davis  
Andy Romero

**Violin 2:**

Angel Bustillos, *Principal*  
Patrick Cook, *Principal Second on Moondance*  
Hayden Rose  
Marcella Schei  
Cheryl Hite  
Jennifer Clary

**Librarian:**

Rob Stahly, *Head Librarian*  
Lamarana Balde

## PROGRAM NOTES

### ***Eine kleine Nachtmusik*** **Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756-1791)**

The opening of Mozart's *Eine kleine Nachtmusik* is among the most well-known musical phrases in history. Despite its popularity, the work itself is somewhat shrouded in mystery, as musicologists know little about why it was composed or where or when it was first performed. It was not published until 1827, well after Mozart's death. It is thought that Mozart completed the work on August 10, 1787, and that it originally contained five movements: the *Allegro* (which we perform today), *Romance*, two minuets, and the final *Rondo*. The second minuet has been lost, reducing the work to its current four-movement structure.

*Eine kleine Nachtmusik* is a serenade, or a work often intended for performance outdoors in the evening. Its structure mimics the four-movement, fast-slow-minuet-fast tempos of the classical symphony. The first movement follows a standard *sonata-allegro* form. Mozart's use of dynamic extremes and silence offer a clever unpredictability. The imitation between upper and lower voices mimics operatic duet and contrasts with the rhythmically propulsive moments that thrust the work forward. The development begins with a restatement of the opening theme moving from the dominant, D Major, to a B7 chord. This harmonic language bears no connection to the music that follows, as Mozart winds through various keys before chromatically sliding his way, via a Neapolitan sixth, back into the opening material.

Although the work on the surface seems lighthearted and fitting of frivolous outdoor entertainment, we can feel the totality of Mozart's genius even in this "little" piece, suggesting that this work is anything but *A Little Night Music*.

— Program Notes by Rachel Waddell

### ***Moon Feather Magic*** **Elena Kats-Chernin (b. 1957)**

Founded by Melbourne doctor Catherine Crock, the Hush Foundation creates music to ease the stress on children in families in hospitals. *Moon Feather Magic* was written when 12 Australian composers were sent to adolescent health units in hospitals across the country to create music for the Hush Foundation's 18th recording. Working with young patients, they created music that would soothe, calm and delight them in difficult times.

In *Moon Feather Magic* I wanted to create an air of lightness and optimism, hence there is much texture with plucked strings. The motifs are short and clear. There is a playful nod to Baroque, a style which I find calming. This piece sits at a time of the day when afternoon is ending and evening is beginning, just when the moon is starting to show its foggy light. And it gently leads into evening...

## ***Lullaby to the Moon***

**Brian Balmages (b. 1975)**

Many works of fiction portray the moon as a living being. Particularly in children's books, one can find countless illustrations of the moon with a face on it, experiencing a wide array of emotions. This piece is written from the perspective of the "living moon" - alone in space while looking at the Earth. The music portrays the sometimes lovely feeling of the moon, away from all the life on Earth. There are also moments of comfort as the moon proudly watches over us, almost as a parent watches over his or her children from a distance. Despite feeling alone throughout the day, the moon emerges at night to light the sky and make us feel safer on those darkest of nights. This lullaby is my own personal way of returning the favor.

— Program Notes by Brian Balmages

## ***Moondance***

**Van Morrison (b.1945), arr. Michael Hopkins**

Warner Brothers released Van Morrison's *Moondance* on January 27, 1970. Both the album and song, which share the same title, were well-received and critically acclaimed. The original release, 1990 remaster, and 2013 reissue have helped cement Morrison's career and legacy. By 1996, *Moondance* had sold over three million copies, and in 2007 the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame ranked *Moondance* number 72 on its list of *200 Definitive Albums*. *Moondance*'s enduring popularity can be tied to Morrison's eclectic assimilation of styles. The Northern Irish singer-songwriter grew up heavily influenced by the Blues, country music, and gospel and toured on saxophone, guitar, and voice at age 13. In 1964, he founded the band Them, and ultimately began to grow in popularity with the release of *Brown-Eyed Girl* in 1967. Morrison has received many awards, including a Knighthood, Brit, OBE, and six Grammys.

*Moondance* celebrates Morrison's newly wedded life to vocalist Janet Planet (Janet Morrison Minto). Morrison had recently quit drugs, and *Moondance*'s lyrics explore the alternate pleasures of nature, rural life, and domestic bliss in their home in upstate New York.

This arrangement for string orchestra, piano, and drum set, is by Michael Hopkins, Chair of Music Education and Professor of Music at the University of Michigan. We have added a vamp to allow for additional improvisation and solos. Enjoy!

— Program Notes by Rachel Waddell

## ***Perseus***

**Soon Hee Newbold (b.1974)**

A legendary figure in Greek mythology, Perseus is best known for slaying the hideous snake-haired Gorgon Medusa, whose looks turned everyone to stone. Being a son of Zeus, he received help from Athena, and from gifts that aided him in completing his quest, which included a shield, a cap that made him invisible, winged sandals, a sickle, and a satchel to carry Medusa's head. On his journey home, Perseus rescued the princess Andromeda, who became his wife, from a sea monster. They were later set in the sky by the gods as immortal constellations.

While there are differing details in several versions of the Perseus story, the main events remain consistent. Some believe that Perseus founded Mycenae where he was king. His fictitious descendants include the famous Hercules and emperors of Persia. The northern constellation Perseus contains the famous star Algol, imagined to be the eye of Medusa.

— Program notes by Soon Hee Newbold

**THE CSU CONCERT ORCHESTRA WISHES TO THANK:**

Wil Swindler  
Mike Solo  
Valerie Reed, Peter Muller, and their Team  
Jennifer Clary  
Nicole Darling  
Jim Doser  
Ram Productions  
Copper Ferreira  
Ethan Urtz  
Rob Stahly

**COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY MUSIC APPLIED FACULTY**

**Violin**

Ron Francois  
Leslie Stewart

**Viola**

Margaret Miller

**Cello**

Romina Monsanto

**Bass**

Forest Greenough

**Guitar**

Jeff Laquatra

**Flute**

Ysmael Reyes  
Michelle Stanley

**Oboe**

Pablo Hernandez

**Clarinet**

Wesley Ferreira  
Sergei Vassiliev

**Saxophone**

Peter Sommer  
Dan Goble

**Bassoon**

Cayla Bellamy

**Trumpet**

Stanley Curtis

**Horn**

John McGuire

**Trombone**

Drew Leslie

**Tuba/Euphonium**

Stephen Dombrowski

**Percussion**

Eric Hollenbeck  
Shilo Stroman

**Harp**

Kathryn Harms

**Piano**

Bryan Wallick  
Tim Burns

**Organ**

Joel Bacon

**Voice**

Nicole Asel  
Tiffany Blake  
John Lindsey



Conductor **ROBERT STAHLY** passionately furthers orchestral music through programs that reimagine classical works alongside engaging new and underperformed works. Mr. Stahly made his debut conducting Copland's "The Tender Land" in the Spring of 2023 at Colorado State University. He also conducted portions of Mozart's "The Marriage of Figaro" and "Symphony No. 33" in performance at the CCM Opera Bootcamp. Perpetually studying his craft, Mr. Stahly additionally participated in conducting workshops at the Eastman School of Music,

Bard College, University of Missouri Kansas City, and University of Colorado. His conducting teachers include Harold Farberman, Gianmaria Griglio, Mark Gibson, Apo Hsu, Neil Varon, Kevin Noe, Gary Lewis, Wes Kenney, and Dr. Rachel Waddell.

Mr. Stahly is the Apprentice Conductor for the Fort Collins Symphony, the Conductor of the Denver Young Artists Orchestra String Ensemble and former Conductor of the Longmont Youth Symphony String Ensemble. Active as a performer, he is the former Associate Principal Cellist with the Longmont Symphony Orchestra and is the cellist for the Elevation String Quartet. A conductor who is passionate about music education, Mr. Stahly continues to visit school music programs to coach new generations of musicians and teachers. During his 13 years at Longmont High School Mr. Stahly tripled the size of the orchestra program while at the same time increasing the quality and diversity of the ensembles. In 2016, he was recognized as one of the top six educators in the St. Vrain Valley School District with an "Encore Award" and in 2019 he was a finalist for "Teacher of the Year." Mr. Stahly received Bachelor's Degrees in Music Education, Tuba Performance, and a String Pedagogy Certificate from Colorado State University in 2008. In 2022 he returned to CSU to pursue a Master's Degree in Orchestral Conducting.



With energy, imagination, and a passion for people, American conductor **RACHEL WADDELL** proves an unabashed advocate for the 21<sup>st</sup> century orchestra. Her leadership across the country demonstrates her innate ability to transform vision into action. Rachel believes by uplifting, celebrating, and reflecting the artistry of our neighbors, orchestras become the creative heartbeat of our communities. Through breathtaking collaborations and an untiring dedication to education, mentorship, and community, Rachel inspires transformative experiences and ensembles.

Rachel serves as the newly appointed Director of Orchestras at Colorado State University. Previously she was the Director of Orchestral Activities and Assistant Professor with the Arthur Satz Department of Music at the University of Rochester in New York. The UR Orchestras gained recognition as a two-time national winner for the American Prize's Vytautas Marijosius Memorial Award in Orchestral Programming in 2019 and 2020. In 2021, they won international acclaim in collaboration with conducting colleague Tiffany Chang and Oberlin Conservatory through a digital performance of Beethoven's *Choral Fantasy*, named Best Instrumental Performance of 2021 by the LIT Talent Awards.

Rachel maintains a busy profile in the professional and academic worlds. She has conducted orchestras around the world including the Orchestre Métropolitain, the Rochester, Las Vegas, and Fort Wayne Philharmonics, the Southwest Michigan Symphony Orchestra (where she was a Music Director Finalist) and Cleveland's Suburban Symphony. While serving as the Associate Conductor of the Canton Symphony Orchestra in Ohio, Rachel conducted over 80 performances of classical, pops, and education concerts. She has attended numerous conducting programs including the Dallas Opera's prestigious Hart Institute for Women Conductors, and Mark Shapiro's Conducting Intensive at Juilliard. In August 2022 she made her Vienna debut conducting *Così fan tutte* as part of the Vienna Opera Academy. In July 2023 she made her Canadian debut with the Orchestre Métropolitain, after being selected to conduct by Yannick Nézet-Séguin at Le Domaine Forget de Charlevoix.

Rachel's interest in the constantly evolving role and responsibility of orchestras within their communities led her to co-found Conductors for Change, Inc., a 501(c)(3) for anyone reimagining the future of the American orchestra.

Rachel holds a DMA in Orchestra Conducting from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, and a certificate in Music Industry Essentials from the prestigious Clive Davis Institute of Recorded Music at NYU's Tisch School of the Arts.

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