



Colonel Jason K. Fettig, Director

UNITED STATES MARINE BAND  
Wednesday, August 24, 2022 at 6:30 P.M.  
Yards Park  
Thursday, August 25, 2022 at 7:30 P.M.  
John Philip Sousa Band Hall  
Major Ryan J. Nowlin, conducting

Haydn Wood (1882–1959)  
arranged by W. J. Duthoit

Montmartre March from *Paris Suite*

Bruce Broughton (b. 1945)

A Celebration Overture

Paul Dukas (1865–1935)  
orchestrated by Donald Miller

*Villanelle*  
SSgt Brigette Knox, horn soloist

George Walker (1922–2018)  
arranged by SSgt Lucia Disano\*

Lyric for Strings  
SSgt Lucia Disano, conducting

arranged by SSgt Scott Nimmer\*

*The Great American Songbook*  
MGySgt Kevin Bennear, baritone  
SSgt Lucia Disano, conducting

John Zdechlik (1937–2020)

Chorale and Shaker Dance  
SSgt Lucia Disano, conducting

Samuel Augustus Ward (1848–1903)  
arranged by Carmen Dragon

“America, the Beautiful”

MGySgt Kevin Bennear, concert moderator

\*Member, U.S. Marine Band

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# ***PROGRAM NOTES***

## **Montmartre March from *Paris Suite***

Haydn Wood (1882–1959)

arranged by W.J. Duthoit

Haydn Wood was a British composer raised on the Isle of Mann and grew up in a musical family. He began playing violin as a child, and his success on the instrument led him to study violin at the Royal College of Music in London. He went on to study with the renowned teacher César Thomson in Brussels. After his schooling, Wood began touring internationally on violin and composing. Wood's reputation as a composer was made through the over 200 ballad-style songs he wrote, among which "Roses of Picardy" and "A Brown Bird Singing" are most well-known. These were both composed for his wife, Dorothy Court, with whom he toured extensively.

In addition to the many ballads he composed, Wood was a prolific composer for the orchestra. His compositional strengths lay in melody and scoring, and he is best remembered for his lighter orchestral music. The *Paris Suite* contains three movements inspired by different areas of the city. Montmartre March is the third movement of the suite originally for orchestra, arranged by William James Duthoit for concert band. It is a rousing march, invoking the *joie de vivre* of Paris in the early 1900s.

## **A Celebration Overture**

Bruce Broughton (b. 1945)

Born into a family of musicians, Broughton began his musical studies on the piano and trumpet. At the young age of seven, Broughton was already touring the United States with a brass band. He graduated from the University of Southern California, Los Angeles, with a degree in composition in 1967 and quickly made his mark as a composer of television music. Between 1981 and 2005 he earned a record ten Emmy Awards for his television score compositions. He became an in-demand film composer and composed for films such as *Harry and the Hendersons*, *Homeward Bound: The Incredible Journey*, and *Tombstone*. More recently, Broughton has turned his attention to concert pieces and has composed for orchestra, symphonic band, and chamber groups. Broughton wrote the following regarding his work:

"A Celebration Overture begins with a distinctive fanfare motif from the trumpets, horns, and percussion, followed by the full ensemble. The opening forms the basis of the piece that follows in several variations. A contrasting lyrical section appears shortly after the opening and once again before the final push to the end. The general feeling of the piece is exuberance and . . . well, celebratory!"

## **Villanelle**

Paul Dukas (1865–1935)  
orchestrated by Donald Miller

Paul Dukas was a French composer and music critic. His interest in composition started in his early teenage years, and he enrolled in the Paris Conservatoire at age sixteen. His body of compositions is relatively small, but they were highly influential to many twentieth-century composers. He is best known for his ballets, *La Péri* and *L'apprenti sorcier*. Dukas was also an integral part of the philosophical discussions concerning music and culture of the day. He published hundreds of articles in various French publications, greatly influencing the trajectory of thought surrounding the arts.

Dukas's *Villanelle* was composed for horn and orchestra in 1906, though the orchestration was subsequently lost and now is most often performed with horn and piano. A villanelle is a form of pastoral poem, which Dukas references through his use of 6/8 time often associated with pastoral music. A virtuosic work, *Villanelle* demands both lyrical playing and stunning technique from the hornist, covering the entire range of the horn. Dukas pays tribute to the history of the horn by opening the piece with a horn call and lyrical passage in the style of the valve-less natural horn. The subsequent technical passages demand the more modern horn with valves to accomplish the chromaticism and speed. *Villanelle* is both challenging to perform and exciting to listen to, and has become a standard in horn literature.

### **Staff Sergeant Brigette Knox, horn soloist**

Horn player Staff Sergeant Brigette Knox of Albuquerque, New Mexico, joined “The President’s Own” United States Marine Band in December 2013. Staff Sgt. Knox began her musical training on piano at age seven and horn at age twelve. After graduating in 2003 from Eldorado High School in Albuquerque, she attended the Cleveland Institute of Music (CIM) in Ohio where she earned a bachelor’s degree in music performance in 2007. In 2009 she completed a master’s degree in music performance from The Juilliard School in New York. She has also pursued doctoral studies at the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music (CCM) in Ohio. She studied with Rick Solis of CIM, William Purvis of Juilliard, and Randy Gardner of CCM.

Prior to joining “The President’s Own,” Staff Sgt. Knox was the band and choir director for Central Catholic Junior-Senior High School in Lafayette, Indiana. She was also a freelance musician, performing with the Lafayette Symphony Orchestra and Evansville Philharmonic Orchestra in Indiana, Kentucky Symphony Orchestra in Newport, and the Cincinnati Chamber Orchestra.

## **Lyric for Strings**

George Walker (1922–2018)  
transcribed for band by SSgt Lucia Disano\*

George Walker was born in Washington, D.C. His father immigrated to the United States from the West Indies and went to Temple University Medical School to become a physician. Walker’s mother, Rosa King, had her son begin piano lessons at the young age of five. Walker took to music immediately, and by age fifteen he was a student at Oberlin College, where he

studied piano and organ. He then was accepted to the Curtis Institute of Music where he studied piano and composition. When he graduated in 1945, Walker became the first Black graduate of the world-renowned music school. He then won the Philadelphia Youth Auditions and performed Rachmaninoff's Third Piano Concerto under the baton of Eugene Ormandy in 1945 as the first Black instrumentalist to perform with this orchestra. Through his career, he would continue to open the boundaries of many revered musical institutions as the first Black performer, composer, and member. The capstone of his career was winning the 1996 Pulitzer Prize in Music, the first Black composer to win that prestigious award, for his work *Lilacs, for voice and orchestra*.

Walker was a prolific composer, composing over ninety works for orchestra, piano, and chamber groups. His String Quartet No. 1 was composed in 1946 when he was twenty-four years old. In 1990, Walker reset the second movement for full string orchestra, calling it Lyric for Strings, and it quickly became Walker's most performed composition. It is a beautiful and heartfelt piece of music, with long lyrical lines that slowly build in intensity. The piece was dedicated to Walker's grandmother, a formerly enslaved person, who died shortly before he composed the original string quartet.

### **The Great American Songbook**

arranged by SSgt Scott Nimmer\*

The Great American Songbook is a loosely defined canon of influential American jazz and popular songs from the 1920s to 1950s. There is no definitive collection that is recognized by all, but standards by composers such as George Gershwin, Cole Porter, Irving Berlin, and Johnny Mercer are always included.

This medley includes four tunes. "You Make Me Feel So Young" was composed in 1946 and popularized by Frank Sinatra as one of the songs on his hit 1956 album *Songs for Swingin' Lovers*. Sinatra and his arranger Nelson Riddle put together his version of the song that would become a pop classic. It's a joyous tune that exudes energy and excitement. "Night and Day" was written by Cole Porter for the 1932 musical *Gay Divorce* that has been performed and recorded countless times since. Porter claimed to be inspired by a trip to Morocco where he heard the Islamic call to worship. It is one of the most popular songs in the Great American Songbook, and it has been adapted to many different jazz styles, from Latin to swing. "Where or When" is a show tune from the 1937 musical, *Babes in Arms*. The lyrics describe the sense of déjà vu that the two main characters have when they fall in love at first sight. "Mack the Knife" is a song composed by Kurt Weill for *The Threepenny Opera* in 1928, originally in German. In 1933, the first English-language production of *The Threepenny Opera* was introduced to American audiences. In the 1950s, "Mack the Knife" caught on in popular song, recorded in 1955 by Louis Armstrong and then most famously by Bobby Darin in 1958. Darin's recording flew up the charts and also earned him two Grammy Awards. This Great American Songbook medley combines popular song genres of pop, jazz, and show tunes in a nostalgic mix of audience favorites.

### **Master Gunnery Sergeant Kevin Bennear, baritone**

Baritone vocalist and concert moderator Master Gunnery Sergeant Kevin Bennear joined "The President's Own" United States Marine Band in January 2000, becoming the third featured vocal soloist since the position was established in 1955. He began his musical instruction at age nine. After

graduating in 1990 from Elk Garden High School in Elk Garden, West Virginia, he attended Potomac State College in Keyser, West Virginia, and earned a bachelor's degree in music in 1996 from West Virginia University (WVU) in Morgantown, where he studied with Peter Lightfoot. He earned a master's degree in vocal performance in 1999 from the University of Tennessee (UT), in Knoxville, where he studied with George Bitzas.

Master Gunnery Sgt. Bennear has performed with the UT Opera Theater, WVU Opera Theater, Theatre West Virginia, and the Knoxville Opera Company, where he played the role of Sharpless in Giacomo Puccini's *Madama Butterfly* with noted soprano Stella Zimbalis of the Metropolitan Opera. He also taught voice as a graduate teaching assistant at UT.

### **Chorale and Shaker Dance**

John Zdechlik (1937–2020)

John Zdechlik was born in Minnesota and worked there throughout his impressive career. As a child, he played piano and trumpet. His interest in music led him to pursue degrees in music at the University of Minnesota, including a doctorate in theory and composition. In 1970 he joined the faculty of Lakewood Community College, which would later be called Century College. He worked there as a professor, conductor, music department chair, and resident composer until he retired in 1997. Zdechlik is predominantly known for his symphonic band compositions, but also composed works for chamber groups and one piece for orchestra. His music is influenced by American composers such as William Schuman and Vincent Persichetti.

Chorale and Shaker Dance is Zdechlik's most performed work for concert band. It was composed as a commission for Bloomington Jefferson High School in Bloomington, Minnesota and premièred at the Music Educators National Conference in 1972. Since then it has been performed by thousands of professional, college, and high school bands. Zdechlik claimed to have guest conducted the piece over 500 times. Chorale and Shaker Dance combines an originally composed chorale melody with the familiar Shaker tune "Simple Gifts." Alternating woodwind and brass choirs perform snippets of the melodies, often presented in syncopated rhythms and dissonant counterpoint until a triumphant finish in which "Simple Gifts" is finally heard in full.

### **"America, the Beautiful"**

Samuel Augustus Ward (1848–1903)

arranged by Carmen Dragon

As has been the case for every inauguration since Thomas Jefferson's in 1801, the Marine Band performed for President Ronald Reagan's first inauguration in 1981. This inauguration came amidst an extended hostage crisis: the American Embassy in Iran had been seized on November 4, 1979. During the Iranian Revolution fifty-two Americans were held by a group of revolutionary students for 444 days. President Jimmy Carter repeatedly attempted to secure the release of the hostages, including the authorization of a military rescue that was unsuccessful. Finally, on January 20, 1981, only a day after the Algiers Accord was signed, rumors began to circulate that the official release of the hostages was imminent. Prior to the swearing in of the new president, the Marine Band performed "America, the Beautiful," sung by longtime baritone soloist Master Gunnery Sgt. Michael Ryan. By that point in the day, news of

the pending release reached a fever pitch and networks began switching back and forth between the inauguration ceremony and the unfolding developments in Iran. Following the band's performance, the new president was sworn in and all fifty-two hostages were released, cementing one of the most dramatic and patriotic moments in American history.

# “THE PRESIDENT’S OWN”

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## ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

1st Lt. Darren Y. Lin - *Hummelstown, PA*

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CWO4 Bryan P. Sherlock - *Evansville, IN*

## EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT TO THE DIRECTOR

Maj Douglas R. Burian - *Bowie, MD*

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## ASSISTANT DRUM MAJOR

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\*+MSgt Elisabeth Plunk - *Moline, IL*

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SSgt Jacob Moyer - *Waldorf, MD*

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MSgt Harry Ong - *Seattle, WA*

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SSgt Samuel Ross - *Russellville, AR*

GySgt Jonathon Troy - *Ann Arbor, MI*

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SSgt Stephen Rudman - *LeRoy, NY*

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GySgt David Jenkins - *Williamstown, MA*

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GySgt Michael Warnick - *Cleveland, OH*

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\*MSgt Hilary Harding - *Princeton, KY*

SSgt Timothy Huizenga - *Lansing, IL*

SSgt Brigitte Knox - *Albuquerque, NM*

GySgt Cecilia Kozlowski - *Sterling Heights, MI*

+MSgt Jennifer Paul - *Algonquin, IL*

GySgt Douglas Quinzi - *Las Cruces, NM*

MSgt Greta Richard - *White Bear Lake, MN*

SSgt Claire Ross - *Grand Rapids, MI*

SSgt Rebecca Sieff - *Columbia, MD*

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\*MSgt Samuel Barlow - *Jackson, TN*

+MGySgt Chris Clark - *Commerce, TX*

MSgt Timothy Dugan - *Ocean City, NJ*

GySgt Preston Hardage - *Chesterfield, MO*

SSgt Christopher Reaves - *Colorado Springs, CO*

SSgt Russell Sharp - *Mustang, OK*

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\*Principal

+Section Leader

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