

"What If..." Call for Scores Premiere Concert

*What if the flute represented a
character other than a bird?*



James Brinkmann, flute
Jemal Tavadze, piano

Wednesday, June 7, 2023 at 6:00 PM
Cook Recital Hall, Michigan State University

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** Content provided includes information about the composer, program notes, and a link or email to purchase the music.*

About the “What If…” Call for Scores

As founder of Innovative Flutist, I blend research, teaching, and performance to design musical projects that engage people with music, creativity, and their community. The *What If... Call for Scores* embodies this mission by providing an accessible opportunity for a diverse group of composers, expanding repertoire for flutists of different expertise, and welcoming the listener’s perspective into the creative process of selecting winning pieces.

In my research on how listeners make meaning of music, people often associate the flute with a bird. The *What IF... Call for Scores* invited composers to write music that expands perceptions of the flute based on the prompt “what if the flute represented a character other than a bird?” The call had no application fee and welcomed composers of all ages, expertise, and nationalities to write for beginner, intermediate, or expert flutists. There were 128 total submissions from composers representing 30 nationalities and living in 26 countries on six continents. The unique selection committee consisted of two professional flutists, an adult amateur flutist, and a non-performing music listener.



This call for scores and premiere recital is supported in part by the East Lansing Arts Commission and the MSU College of Music Running Start.



Program

Beginner Flute Repertoire

Valse des Grenouilles	Wes Stephens (b. 1983)
Tokay!	Leslie Donovan (b. 1979)
The Sand Bubbler Crab	Ethan Prado (b. 2000)
Researcher in the Library	Kevin Kato (b. 2001)
The Dancing Frog	Patty Salmond (b. 1961)
What If Elephants Dreamed They Could Fly	Lucas Hill (b. 1997)
PREHISTORIC	Tyler Zwink (b. 2001)

Intermediate Flute Repertoire

The Death of Pan	Werner De Bleser (b. 1959)
The Galumphing Tortoise	Jessica Schaumburg (b. 1999)
Ksana	Da-Yu Liu (b. 1996)
A Beetle's Journey	Denise Ondishko (b. 1960)

Intermission

Advanced Flute Repertoire

Chacchoben Ruminations

Eric Davis
(b. 2000)

The Fire Engine

Matthew Benbenek
(b. 1996)

Song of Water

Daniel Gledhill
(b. 1984)

Labyrinth 1

Szymon Wieczorek
(b. 2001)

the optimist

Henry Ives
(b. 1998)

About the Performers

The founder of Innovative Flutist, **Dr. James Brinkmann** leads a diverse career as a performer, teacher, and researcher to increase people's curiosity and sense of belonging within Western classical music. He creates interactive performances that encourage listeners' engagement, creativity, and connection to music and community. From concert halls to jamming in the subways, he has performed interactive concerts throughout North America and gave his TEDx Talk *Collaborative Listening*.



A versatile musician, James served as Principal Flute for the 2023 U.S. national orchestra tour of the Netflix documentary *Our Planet Live in Concert*. He has held positions in the Northbrook Symphony, Lakeview Orchestra, and played with the New World Symphony and Jackson Symphony. He also won prizes in the National Flute Association Orchestral Excerpts Competition and the Donald Peck International Flute Competition. As a chamber musician, he co-founded Floboe Productions, known for their original comedic musical production “Concerto for Frenemies”, which presented on expanding performance styles at the International Double Reed Society.

An avid teacher, James is the new flute instructor for the McKinney and Rockwall ISDs in Dallas, TX and is the author of *The Scale Page*, a scale book for advancing beginner and intermediate flutists. A regular clinician, he has presented workshops for the National Flute Association, New Jersey Flute Society, and the University of Utah among others. He specialized in teaching undergraduate flutists and jazz doublers as a teaching assistant at Michigan State University. Prior to graduate school, he was on flute faculty and the Woodwind Department Chair at the Merit School of Music. He holds degrees from MSU (DMA, MM) where he is completing a MA in Musicology and DePaul University (BM). www.innovativeflutist.com



Native of Tbilisi, Georgia, **Jemal Tavadze** is best known in his country as a theatre composer and a pianist performing a wide variety of solo and chamber music repertoire. He has performed as a soloist in the Big Hall and Small Hall of the Tbilisi State Conservatory and has played solo recitals in US, Sweden, Germany and Italy.

As a composer, he has cooperated with the State Drama Academical Theatre, Youth Theatre, Akhmeteli Drama Theatre and others on music for the stage, and his music is still heard in many theatres of Georgia. His interest in diverse musical styles and genres also led him to found the first klezmer music band in Georgia, for which he still serves as artistic director.

Jemal Tavadze holds a DMA in piano performance from MSU and MA in piano performance and composition from Tbilisi State Conservatory. Currently he serves as a Music Director at St. Patrick Catholic Church in Portland, Michigan.

2022 Selection Committee

The relationship between a composer, performer, and listener is beautiful, complex, and vital. As an advocate for valuing and including performers of all levels and music listeners, I invited three people of different music backgrounds to be on the committee.

Elise Blatchford Guest Professional Flutist
Associate Professor of Flute, University of Memphis School of Music, TN

Gerardo Lopez Guest Adult Flute Enthusiast
Ph.D. Student in Music Theory, Ohio State University, OH

Ramona Fantini Guest Non-Performing Listener
Business Consultant, SC

James Brinkmann Founder of Innovative Flutist
DMA, Principal Flutist on the Netflix *Our Planet Live* National Tour, MI

Praised by the Cleveland Plain Dealer for her “superb command of color and nuance,” Elise Blatchford is the Associate Professor of Flute at the University of Memphis School of Music in Tennessee. As a founding member of The City of Tomorrow, Ms. Blatchford won first prize at the 2011 Fischhoff National Chamber Music Competition. She holds degrees in flute performance from the Oberlin Conservatory of Music and the San Francisco Conservatory.



Gerardo (Gerry) Lopez (he/him/his) is a PhD student in Music Theory at The Ohio State University (OSU). He earned an MM in Music Theory from Michigan State University, where he briefly studied flute with James Brinkmann. He also earned a BM and a MM in Flute Performance from the University of Redlands, having studied with Sara Andon. Aside from his academic interests, and when time permits, he enjoys going on long road trips across the country.

Ramona Fantini is a Business Consultant that draws on her previous careers as a small business owner and corporate executive to assist her clients. The circuitous route from the pharmaceutical arena to technology to a successful Gelato business gave her an appreciation for the importance of accepting all that life throws at you. Along with her obsession with downhill and cross-country skiing, Ramona is dedicated to several animal rescues and empowering future women leaders.



Special thanks to Emily Demski for her administrative assistance in the judging process!

Beginner Flute Repertoire

Valse des Grenouilles for flute and piano

Wes Stephens

Location: Egilsstadir, Iceland

Nationality: American

Purchase music: www.wesstephens.com

Wes Stephens' award-winning compositions have been performed internationally by organizations and ensembles such as the Boston Metro Opera, Tulsa Modern Movement, Bespoke Brass, the University of Missouri Percussion Ensemble, the Truman State University Percussion Ensemble, and the University of Oklahoma Steel Band. His music is published by TapSPACE Publications, C. Alan Publications, and Amalgam Publishing.



Program Notes:

In *Valse des Grenouilles*, I used triplet rhythms in the flute and piano to depict the hopping motion of frogs. I also depicted croaking by using chromatic grace notes in the low register of the piano, which serve to interrupt the otherwise serene and graceful atmosphere of frogs hopping around on lily pads.

Tokay! for flute and piano

Leslie Donovan

Location: North Sydney, NS, Canada

Nationality: Canadian

Purchase Music: ldonovanchem@gmail.com

Leslie Donovan is a science educator and amateur composer from Nova Scotia, Canada. Their musical interests focus on works for woodwind instruments, especially recorder and flute, and on works for vocal ensemble. A series of musical encounters during a solo camping trip around Iceland reawakened their desire to compose after a hiatus of twenty years, and they are drawn to working with unconventional texts and the possibilities presented by integrating the world of scientific research with musical storytelling.



Program Notes:

Tokay! is a tribute to the indefatigably noisy tokay gecko, first encountered by the composer during a vacation in Siem Reap, Cambodia. Its call easily mistaken for that of a bird by the uninitiated, this nocturnal lizard is found throughout Southeast Asia and fills the night with its incessant mating call: Tokay! Tokay! Tokay!

The Sand Bubbler Crab for unaccompanied flute
Ethan Prado
Location: Elmhurst, IL, United States
Nationality: Filipino-American

Purchase music:

<https://ethanpradomusic.wixsite.com/eathanpradomusic>

Ethan James Prado (b. 2000) was born and raised by two Filipino immigrants in Lombard, Illinois. In his senior year of high school, he served as principal percussion in the Chicago Youth Symphony Orchestras' (CYSO) Philharmonic Orchestra, attending the composition and percussion tracks in the program. Ethan has had works premiered by ensembles such as the Lesbian and Gay Big Apple Corps and the Illinois Modern Ensemble. Most recently, he was a finalist in the ASCAP Foundation 2022 Morton Gould Young Composer Awards Competition. He recently graduated with bachelor's degrees in composition-theory and percussion performance at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. His composition teachers included Prof. Reynold Tharp, Prof. Sever Tipei, Prof. Stephen Taylor, and Prof. Carlos Carrillo. As for percussion, he studied under Prof. William Moersch and Prof. Ricardo Flores. Ethan has performed with the top ensembles of UIUC, including its Symphony Orchestra, Wind Symphony, Illinois Modern Ensemble, Steel Band, and Percussion Ensemble. Outside of school, he is a tenured member of the Wheaton Municipal Band's percussion section and a member of The Naperville Winds.



Program Notes:

I have always been amused by the little sand bubbler crabs that inhabit the beaches in the Pacific. In this short piece, I wanted to capture that nature of scuttling about and hiding via the melodic sections, and blowing bubbles with the trilled section.

Researcher in the Library for unaccompanied flute
Kevin Kato
Location: Urbana, IL, United States
Nationality: American

Purchase music: kevinkato42@gmail.com

Kevin Kato is a composer and organist from Bloomington, Illinois, and is currently a senior at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. His music has been performed by the University of Illinois' Varsity Men's Glee Club, the Illinois Modern Ensemble, New Music Mosaic, and the Altgeld Ringers, as well as individual artists such as Ga-Eun Kim, Ethan Prado, Malachi Provenzano, and Andrew McGowan.



He has won the University of Illinois Chapter ACDA Choral Composition contest in 2021, as well as placing second in the Altgeld Chimes Centennial contest and a finalist in the ASCAP Foundation Morton Gould Young Composer Awards. In addition to composition, Kevin also regularly accompanies at St. John's Catholic Newman Center in Champaign in addition to serving as a substitute organist for a variety of churches.

Program Notes:

This piece follows a researcher in the library. They excitedly peruse books, trying to keep quiet but letting their excitement get the better of them when they make a discovery. They are repeatedly shushed by the patrons, and they dial back their excitement for a time. Their progress continues until finally find the last piece of information they need. The researcher emits one last burst of excitement before quietly making their way out of the library amid the shushes of everyone around them.

The Dancing Frog for unaccompanied flute

Patty Salmond

Location: Star, ID, United States

Nationality: American

Purchase music: www.pattyspianostudio.com

Patty Salmond has been teaching piano for 42 years. She returned to college at age 55 to receive her Associate degree in the field of music with an emphasis on piano performance. She has been working on a composition degree at Boise State University for the past two years. She is the mother of eight and grandmother to sixteen.



Program Notes:

As I contemplated the question "WHAT IF", I wondered what a piece about a frog would sound like? I had a delightful time thinking about a frog flip flopping around in my garden. As always, nearly all of my compositions are for my students. They are always on my mind when I compose. As a devoted teacher, I thought about the techniques an early flutist might need to learn. The student who plays this piece will be called upon to pay attention to various articulation marks, the staccatos and the legatos and the dynamic markings. I also hope that they will have fun seeing that same frog that I saw, in my mind's eye, flopping around my garden!

What If Elephants Dreamed They Could Fly for flute and piano

Lucas Hill

Location: Lyerly, GA, United States

Nationality: American

Purchase music: email at hilllucas1@yahoo.com

Lucas Hill is an up-and-coming composer from Lyerly, GA. He has enjoyed the influence of many different musical styles in the classical and popular spheres and seeks to find a way to marry the easily enjoyed elements of popular music with the deeply intellectual ideas of classical music. One of his favorite quotes he applies to his musical compositions and life as a whole is, "I just think people talk far too much to say anything of value. Spit it out and we'll all understand each other much better." Lucas currently holds a bachelor's degree in music education from Berry College in Rome, GA. His current trajectory is uncertain, but he is working to begin study for a master's in music composition in the fall of the 2023 academic year.



Program Notes:

It is generally agreed upon that elephants are very intelligent animals. Scientists have observed behaviors quite similar to humans in the way they form bonds, interact with their family units, and how they address stress. I wonder if there aren't more curious ways they be similar to us though. I wrote *What if Elephants Dreamed They Could Fly* as a kind of whimsical exploration of this. I like to imagine a young elephant drifting off to sleep next to her mother with a young and curious mind imagining she could spread her ears like wings and take off before waking again safely on the ground the next day.

PREHISTORIC for flute and piano

Tyler Zwink

Location: Oklahoma City, OK, United States

Nationality: American

*****Beginner Category Winner**

Purchase music:

https://www.jwpepper.com/myscore/Tyler_Zwink

Tyler Zwink is an American composer whose music has been played across the United States. He is currently studying vocal music education and composition at the University of Central Oklahoma. He has received multiple research grants to compose his three operas, as well as



participated in workshops with the Woodward Arts Theatre, The Julius Quartet, Wichita Symphony Orchestra, and the international Brazilian Opera Company in New York City.

Program Notes:

What if... the flute represented the land dinosaur? PREHISTORIC contrasts the common representations of the flute, such as birds, grace, and light, with something heavy and thrilling: the land dinosaur. From the smallest land dinosaur, the Compsognathus, to the largest one, the Titanosaur, these creatures dominated the world millions of years ago with great might. In a way, though, the flute still represents birds, as in 2003 Paleontologists found that the closest living relatives to dinosaurs are chickens and ostriches. While beginning flute players may not have many extended techniques at their disposal, why let professionals have all the fun? This piece employs stomping to the steady beat to let the flutist bring out their inner dinosaur! PREHISTORIC was written for the 2022 What If... Call for Scores competition.

Intermediate Flute Repertoire

The Death of Pan for unaccompanied flute

Werner De Bleser

Location: Antwerp, Belgium

Nationality: Belgian

Purchase music: <https://wernerdebleser.wixsite.com/mysite>

The music Werner De Bleser writes can be divided in two separate blocs: classical, contemporary music and more popular music (most of these compositions are suitable for the advanced non-professional musician). In his classical music, he often uses a computer to determine the musical components of a work: he wrote a computer program which chose (on a random base) several musical elements (pitch, duration, tempo, dynamics, marks, ...). he wrote several pieces with the help of computer programs which uses fractals, mathematics, etc... He also often makes use of other compositions to create his music. For his inspiration, he uses chords, titles, melodies, moods, ... of those compositions. He doesn't see this as plagiarism, but as a comment on those pieces. Just like a modern author or director who recreates classical stage plays.



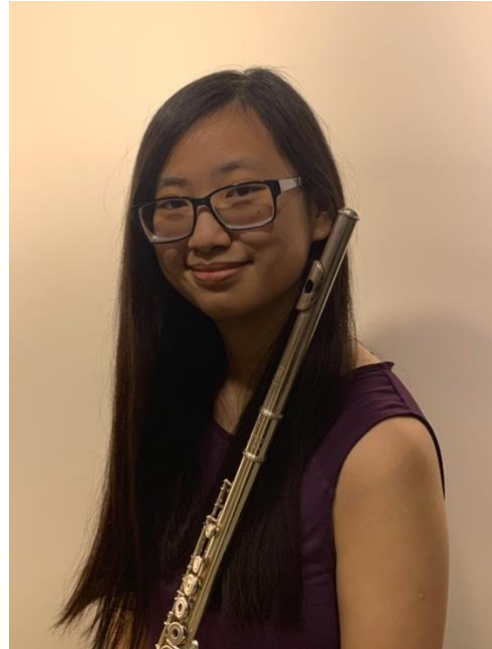
Program Notes:

The Death of Pan for flute solo is a lamentation in the form of a theme and 3 variations. According to the Greek historian Plutarch (in *De defectu oraculorum*, "The Obsolescence of Oracles"), Pan is the only Greek god who actually dies. During the reign of Tiberius (14–37 CE), the news of Pan's death came to one Thamus, a sailor on his way to Italy by way of the island of Paxi. A divine voice hailed him across the salt water, "Thamus, are you there? When you reach Palodes, take care to proclaim that the great god Pan is dead." Which Thamus did, and the news was greeted from shore with groans and laments.

The Galumphing Tortoise for flute and piano
Jessica Schaumberg
Location: Commerce, TX, United States
Nationality: Chinese-American

Purchase music: email at jschau50@gmail.com

Jessica Schaumberg is an Asian American flutist, teacher, and composer. She received a B.M. in Flute Performance and Composition from Western Illinois University. Her flute teachers include Suyeon Ko and Mehrdad Gholami, and under the baton of Mike Fansler, she participated in the recording of David Maslanka's "Symphony No. 10: The River of Time" for Naxos Records. Her composition teachers include James Romig and Hong-Da Chin, and her original piece "Undulations" for solo cello was recently performed at the WIU 2022 New Music Festival. She



is currently keeping a small private studio while pursuing a Masters of Music at Texas A&M University in Commerce. Her free time is spent reading science fiction novels from authors like Suzette Haden Elgin, Orson Scott Card, and Xiran Jay Zhou.

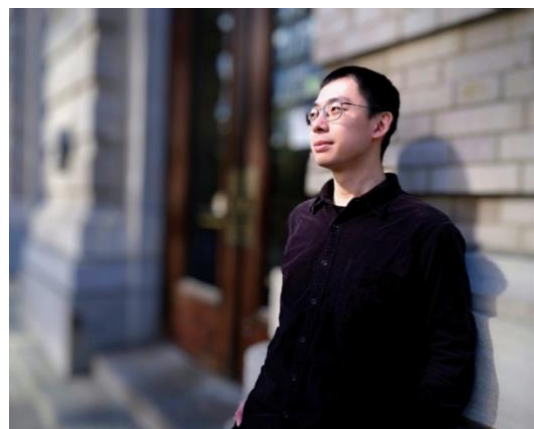
Program Notes:

"The Galumphing Tortoise" was inspired by the notion that the flute is not limited to portraying birds, spirits, and other small, light-hearted creatures. Instead, this character piece embodies the slow and stately tortoise, who is heavy-footed and patient as she meanders about her day. Play this piece with ease and forward motion, just as the majestic tortoise moves unhurriedly to her destination.

Ksana for unaccompanied flute
Da-Yu Liu
Location: Malden, MA, United States
Nationality: Taiwanese

Purchase music: email at da-yu.liu@necmusic.edu

Born in 1996 in Taiwan, Da-Yu Liu is currently pursuing DMA in New England Conservatory, and have previously completed Bachelor in National Taiwan Normal University and Master's in New England Conservatory. He has studied with



Michael Gandolfi, John Malia, and Gordon Shi-Wen Chin. His orchestral, choral, chamber and solo works have received performances in Taiwan and the USA. His music focuses on both musical and philosophical dialogue between Asian and Western music, and explores the relation between individuals and society. Tools he uses include engaging traditional folk tune and

popular tunes into contemporary western composing parameters, but more so, his works aim to present the process of individuals' alienation and assimilation with society, how we settle down and find our places especially facing a world with diverse cultural backgrounds.

Program Notes:

Droplet lives in a blink, but stalactites are timeless.

A Beetle's Journey for unaccompanied flute

Denise (Dede) Ondishko

Location: Cathedral City, CA, United States

Nationality: American

*** **Intermediate Category Winner**

Purchase music: www.jwpepper.com/myscore/ondishko

Denise (Dede) Ondishko was born in 1960 in Bremerton, Washington but had her first musical training at the Peabody Conservatory in Baltimore with piano lessons when she was seven. She soon developed an interest in composition which she nurtured as a teenager at the intensive summer program of the Walden School in Dublin, New Hampshire. Ondishko did her undergraduate work in composition and piano at Carnegie-Mellon University in Pittsburgh and completed both master's and doctoral degrees at the Eastman School of Music in Rochester. After graduating in 1986, Ondishko raised a family while working for twelve years in computer-networking at several large institutions. She changed careers in 1999 to become a public-school music teacher, earning the distinctive National Board Certification. She has taught music to every grade from pre-kindergarten to college in Arizona, New York, Ohio, South Carolina, and Virginia. In addition to her two other careers, Ondishko has composed for orchestra, wind ensemble, solo voice and solo instruments, saxophone with digital audio, saxophone ensemble, choir, and received prizes and awards from BMI, United States Federation of Music Societies, the Eastman School and Northern California Viola Society. Ondishko is affiliated with BMI.



Program Notes:

A Beetle's Journey is inspired by a what-if prompt: What if the flute represented a character other than a bird? Thus, *A Beetle's Journey* for solo flute, traces the happy travels of this ancient, original pollinator on a flowering bush; swirling, changing directions, tangling and jumping haphazardly from one place to another, leaving a delicate trail of debris in its wake.

(The beetle is known as a “dirty pollinator” for this reason!) The journey begins with a climb up to the top of a vine for a tasty bite (or two), and continuing to eat along its way back down. Sometimes it must hide from a predator, before moving unpredictably toward more nourishment. At last, this ancient insect finds rest in the heart of a flower blossom, warmly snuggling deep into its center; gathering pollen before it starts its climb again on another vine. Oh, beetle, aren't you tired?! Like the Beatle, this flute solo requires the instrument and its player to be persistent, robust, agile, and velvety soft in all the ways necessary to thrive. (Original artwork by Rachel Quintanilla



Original artwork by Rachel Quintanilla

Advanced Flute Repertoire

Chacchoben Ruminations for unaccompanied flute

Eric Davis

Location: Austin, TX, United States

Nationality: American

Purchase music: <https://ericburtondavis.com/about-me/>

Eric Davis is a composer and performer based in Austin, TX. Eric graduated in May with a Bachelor’s in Music Composition from the University of Oklahoma, where he also studied French Horn, piano, organ, and music technology. As a performer, Eric has played works for a wide variety of instruments, including mandolin, bass guitar, steel drums, and live electronics, and has performed in numerous chamber groups and large ensembles. This blend of influences is evident in the fluid compositional style present in his works, which have been performed across 15 U.S. states and 4 countries.



Program Notes:

This piece was inspired by a trip to the Chacchoben Mayan ruins in Mexico. Although much of the rubble has been reconstructed, there remain many structures which lie buried in mounds of jungle flora. Solo captures a journey through the ruins, beginning with sparse, airy passages which rise and fall, giving only a hint of the crumbled structures within. As the piece progresses, the music becomes denser and more regimented, and larger musical phrases emerge in imitation of reconstructed buildings. The piece ends as it began, returning the veiled shapes hidden in the undergrowth. (Photo of the ruins by Eric Davis)



The Fire Engine for flute and piano
Matthew Benbenek
Location: Madison, WI, United States
Nationality: American



Purchase music: email at mb111@gmail.com

Matthew Benbenek is a composer and musician living in Milwaukee, WI. Originally from Minneapolis, he attended the University of Wisconsin - Madison to study engineering, but fit in as many music classes he could into his schedule. Since then, Matthew has moved all around the country, working in various industries and making music with local music communities, including studying composition and theory with Efrain Amaya at Minot State University. The influence of his experiences in diverse environments can be heard in his music, taking ideas from a wide range of musical styles and combining them in interesting ways. In particular, he loves writing for non-standard ensembles of instruments and discovering what unique sounds they can create.

Program Notes:

The fire engine chugs through the city, erratic and controlled. Alarm bells sound from the high registers. The rhythmic clang of the charge quickens. Trading off, the flute and piano swerve around the traffic, blaring sirens and sharp blasts from the horn. Smoke rises; excitement turns to danger. The flute's foreboding drones evolve into flames, licking out from the chaotic scene as the fire engine arrives and begins to fight back. A battle ensues. Surging water trades blows with the roaring fire, dousing one blaze while another lights. Finally the embers cool, the fight is over. In front of the burnt rubble the fire engine gathers itself, haltingly and with exhausted breath. But the rest is not long. Once again the chase is on, hastened by the alert of the flute's whistle, and driven by duty and the fumes of tired adrenaline, the fire engine chugs along more determined than ever.

Song of the Water for flute and piano
Daniel Gledhill
Location: Los Angeles, CA, United States
Nationality: American



Purchase music: www.danielgledhill.com

Daniel Gledhill is an accomplished pianist and composer who has worked in the music industry for almost fifteen years. Daniel is currently the principal musician for the UCLA School of Music and the staff accompanist for the American Musical and Dramatic Academy. An award-winning composer, Daniel's influences span classical and contemporary composers such as Ravel, Prokofiev, Nobu

Uematsu, and Hans Zimmer. Daniel composes for various ensembles, concerts, and for film, recently winning the grand prize for his choral work “For the Beauty of the Earth” in the Ensemble Altera Composition Competition. Daniel holds a Bachelor of Arts in Piano Performance from Brigham Young University and then continued his studies at the University of Southern California where he earned a certificate in Scoring for Motion Pictures and Television program.

Program Notes:

"Song of the Water" was composed in 2022 as a response to the call for scores by the What IF... initiative. This opus encapsulates the essence of nature's aqueous symphony, with the flute serving as an embodiment of a meandering stream. The flute's vibrant melodic lines fluidly traverse the musical landscape, oscillating between tranquil languor, lively whimsy, surging white water, and delicate diminuendos reminiscent of a trickling rivulet.

Labyrinth I for unaccompanied flute

Szymon Wieczorek

Location: Gdansk, Poland

Nationality: Polish

Purchase music: email at black Sabbath1081@gmail.com

Szymon Wieczorek was born on 27 November 2001. He studied clarinet at Primary and Secondary Feliks Nowowiejski Music School in Gdańsk. Since 2020 he is studying clarinet in Andrzej Wojciechowski class and composition in Paweł Mykietyn class at Stanisław Moniuszko Academy in Gdańsk. His works was performed many times on festivals (like "Clarimania" in Wrocław, or "Chopin over waters of Motlava" in Baltic Philharmony in Gdańsk) and conferences ("Flute Days" in Frankfurt am Main). In 2021 he took part in "Synthesis International Summer Course for Composers" , and in masterclasses with Pierre Jodlowski organized as a part of "Warsaw Autumn" festival.



Program Notes:

This piece is a musical interpretation of Friedrich Nietzsche poem - "Klage der Ariadne".

“Be clever, Ariadne!...

You have little ears, you have my ears:

Put a clever word in them! –

Must one not first hate oneself, in order to love oneself?

I am your Labyrinth...”

the optimist for flute and piano
Henry Ives
Location: Los Angeles, CA, United States
Nationality: American
*** **Advanced Category Winner**



Purchase music: www.henryives.com

Henry Ives (b. 1998) is a Los Angeles-based composer and multidisciplinary artist. He studied under Dr. James David and Dr. Eric Hollenbeck at Colorado State University in Fort Collins, Colorado, where he received undergraduate degrees in Music Composition and Computer Science. His work has been recognized in both the academic sphere and the pageantry arts. In 2019, he won the CSU Lower Division Composition Contest for his flute solo "turbulence", and in 2020 he won the Southern California Percussion Alliance Composition Scholarship Competition for his electroacoustic chamber composition "what was". Ives is a composer in the broadest sense of the term, and often combines his musical sensibilities with his passion for technology and the visual arts, creating multimedia works that resist categorization. When he's not flouting capitalization in his compositions for the concert hall, gallery, and screen, he can be found writing unit tests, playing spock rolls, and blindly following the strange convention of writing his own composer bio in the third person.

Program Notes:

I wrote *the optimist* in 2022 for the Innovative Flutist "What IF..." call for scores. It depicts a character that we all know: that person who hasn't had it easy, but just keeps looking up. It's a reminder that optimism is not always pleasant—it is persistence in the mourning. I wrote the optimist for my mom. There are a lot of good optimists in the world, but this piece is for her.

Additional Judge's Choice Awards

In addition to the entire committee selecting works to be premiered, each judge selected one piece from all submissions to receive a small prize.

Elise Blatchford's Choice (Professional Flutist Judge)

Antinomies for flute and piano
Christos Anastassiou
Location: Athens, Greece
Nationality: Greek
Purchase music: published by Universal Edition, Vienna

Christos Sp. Anastassiou – MA Composer, Conductor, Professor of Composition. He was born in Athens, where he studied and got degrees in harmony, counterpoint, orchestration, and fugue. He also studied the art of conducting with Lefteris Halkiadakis. He holds a degree in composition with distinction and first prize from Athens with Theodore Antoniou, and Master of Arts (MA) in Music Composition with Srdjan Hofman and Zoran Eric at Belgrade University. In

addition, he studies and gives seminars in electroacoustic music, computer programming and music, spectral music, algorithmic composition, acoustic music, fractal music, live electronic music, and analysis of sound composition techniques. A multi-award-winning composer, He has composed for a variety of media (more than 140 works), including solo, chamber orchestra, symphonic orchestra, string quartets, works for voice, choral music, music for theatre and television, and works for electronic media. His works have been performed by important ensembles of the international contemporary music scene. Many of his works are commissioned by musical organizations and institutions in Greece and abroad (ALEA III, Taukai Edizioni Musicali, Athens Concert Hall, etc.). Currently, he lives in Athens. He is Professor of Composition and director of studies in various conservatories in Athens. He has also repeatedly lectured and taught in seminars on the music of the 20th century. Since 1994, he has been a regular member of the Union of Greek Musicians and since 2018, he is a member (Superintendent) of the Board of Directors. His works are published by Universal Edition Vienna, Austria.

Ramona Fantini's Choice (Non-Performing Listener Judge)

The Point of No Return for flute and piano

Nathan Grocholski

Location: Auburn, MI, United States

Nationality: American

Purchase music: email at nathangrocholski@outlook.com

Nathan Grocholski (b. 1996) is a music composer, musician, creative writer, cat lover, and artist based in the mid Michigan area. Nathan's music aims to have a connection with the major events of his personal life, as well as the events occurring around the world to day, showcasing empathy and understanding with the human experience. He earned a bachelor's degree in music from Saginaw valley State University in 2019, and a master's degree in music composition in 2021 from Ohio University.

Gerry Lopez's Choice (Adult Flute Enthusiast Judge)

The Dancing Frog by Patty Salmond

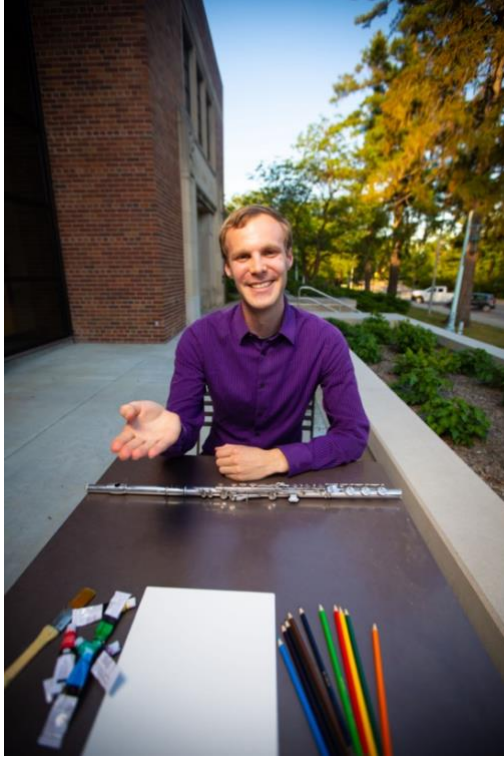
Bio and information available in program.

James Brinkmann's Choice (Professional Flutist Judge)

What If Elephants Dreamed They Could Fly by Lucas Hill

Bio and information available in program.

Thank you for coming today!



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your experience in this
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