

BAND STAFF

Stephen K. Steele, Director of Bands
Daniel A. Belongia, Assistant Director of Bands
Connie Bryant, Administrative Assistant
Saul Garland, Jerusha Johnson, and Matt Drase,
Graduate Teaching Assistants
Jodi Slagel, Nancy O'Neill, Kaitlin King,
and Matt Drase, Band Librarians

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Jeff Harrison and Daniel Fedora, Recording Engineers
Stephen K. Steele, Producer
David Maslanka, Producer

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"Secrets" from "The Shadow of Sirius" by W.S. Merwin,
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DAVID MASLANKA

SYMPHONY NO. 9



ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY WIND SYMPHONY

STEPHEN K. STEELE, CONDUCTOR

JOHN KOCH, READER



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TEL: 518.436.8814 FAX: 518.436.0643
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THE COMPOSER

David Maslanka was born in New Bedford, Massachusetts in 1943. He attended the Oberlin College Conservatory where he studied composition with Joseph Wood. He spent a year at the Mozarteum in Salzburg, Austria, and did graduate work in composition at Michigan State University with H. Owen Reed.

Maslanka's works for wind ensemble have become especially well known. They include the Second, Third, Fourth, Fifth, Seventh, Eighth, and Ninth Symphonies, *Mass*, 12 concertos, and numerous concert pieces. In addition, he has written a wide variety of chamber, orchestral, and choral works.

David Maslanka's compositions are published primarily by Carl Fischer, Inc., and Maslanka Press, and are recorded on numerous labels. He has served on the faculties of the State University of New York at Geneseo, Sarah Lawrence College, New York University, and Kingsborough College of the City University of New York. He now lives and composes in Missoula, Montana.

SYMPHONY NO. 9

Symphony No. 9 is a large collection of instrumental songs. There are many influences and underlying elements, but most of them cannot be explained in words. Rather than try, I will simply list some of the things at work:

Time: memory, passing of time, "we flew through the years hearing them rush under us" —Merwin

Water: cleansing and life-giving power, *Shall We Gather at the River*, *Whale Story*

Nature: our ground, river, ocean, chickadees

Grace: compassion, forgiveness, rest

The *Symphony* begins with a reading of the poem *Secrets** by W.S. Merwin.

Time unseen time our continuing fiction
however we tell it eludes our dear hope and our reason
that is a pure condition of the story
and wherever our parents came from is another century
an age which they themselves could barely remember
but carried with them as their own year after year

hidden away hardly looked at until the secret
without their noticing had faded all the details white
for my mother it came to be the lace veil covering
the front of the baby carriage where she was being
wheeled through the Garden of the Gods when her parents were
still alive as she told about it later

and for my father it was the glare bleaching the surface
of the river as he sat under the white blaze

of summer in the rowboat tied above the waterline
where he was allowed to hold the oars and imagine

leaving did he see any farther when he was
dying in summer after midnight and before the solstice

coughing saying he was not afraid and was the veil still there
when my mother turned from her own garden one evening that same year

telling a friend on the telephone that she was going
to get a little rest now and her glasses were lying

apart from her on the floor not more than an hour
later when a neighbor pushed the door open and found her

Each movement embodies one or more Chorale** melodies or other songs. In the fourth movement there is a reading of my own *Whale Story* (*O Sacred Head Now Wounded*.)

- I. *Shall We Gather at the River*
*I Thank You God for All Your Good Works***
- II. *Now All Lies under Thee***
- III. *Fantasia on I Thank You God...*
- IV. *Fantasia on O Sacred Head Now Wounded***
Shall We Gather at the River
Watch the Night with Me (flute, trumpet, harp, piano)
*Soul, How Have You Become So Unhappy*** (flute, trumpet, saxophone, harp, piano)

Whale Story (O Sacred Head Now Wounded)

Why should God have incarnated only in human form? (A brief story about whales)

In the 60 million years or so the great whales have had, both on land and in the oceans, there have been numerous, and in fact, innumerable great beings among them. In fact, it turns out now that all the great whales are either highly developed bodhisattvas or Buddhas. And in fact, it turns out that the Earth's oceans are a Buddha Pure Land, and when you pass from this existence it is to be hoped for rebirth as a god or a great whale. In fact, it turns out that the Pure Land oceans of the Earth are a training ground for Buddhas across all space and time. We are loved by the great whales, and they, serenely riding the waves of birth and death, will die for us so that we may come to our enlightenment.

The end.

*O Sacred Head Now Wounded*** (clarinet, saxophone, harp, piano, percussion)

*Secrets is used by permission of Copper Canyon Press

**The old chorale melodies are taken from the *371 Four-part Chorales* by J.S. Bach.

—David Maslanka



The Illinois State University Wind Symphony is the premier performing ensemble on campus, performing representative works in all styles from classical to avant-garde. It has been a featured performing ensemble at the American Bandmasters Association Convention, the Illinois Music Educators Association Conference, and College Band Directors National Association National Convention in 1992 and 2001. Recently, the Illinois State University Wind Symphony presented a performance/clinic with Karel Husa at the Midwest International Band

and Orchestra Clinic demonstrating and performing his wind compositions. The Wind Symphony has released 16 compact discs through Albany Records.

Stephen K. Steele has been the Director of Bands at Illinois State University in Normal, Illinois since the fall of 1987. He is responsible for the administration of all band activities. In addition to his conducting and administrative responsibilities, Dr. Steele also teaches undergraduate and graduate conducting, wind literature, and music education courses.

Under his direction, the Illinois State University Wind Symphony has performed for state and national conventions, including the 1990 Illinois Music Educators Association Convention, American Bandmaster Association Convention, the 1993 and 2001 College Band Directors National Association Conference, and the 2005 Midwest Band and Orchestra Clinic. Recordings of Dr. Steele conducting the Illinois State University Wind Symphony can be found on the Albany record label. The Illinois State University Bands under Dr. Steele's direction have traveled and performed in England and Ireland. The marching band has performed for many prestigious events including the 1998 Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade.

Before moving to Illinois in the fall of 1987, Professor Steele was the Marching Band Director and Assistant Director of Bands at the University of Arizona in Tucson. Prior to his responsibilities at the University of Arizona he spent thirteen years as a high school band director in California, Oregon, and Arizona.

Dr. Steele serves as a clinician, adjudicator, and guest conductor in Canada and throughout the United States and is a member of the American Bandmasters Association, National Band Association, College Band Directors National Association, American School Band Directors Association, Illinois Music Educators Association, Music Educators National Association, Phi Mu Alpha, Pi Kappa Lambda, and holds honorary memberships in Kappa Kappa Psi and Tau Beta Sigma.

John Michael Koch, baritone, is Vocal Arts Coordinator and Associate Professor of Music at Illinois State University's College of Fine Arts. He has performed more than 80 operatic and oratorio roles internationally and has released several world premiere recordings on three recording labels. A Metropolitan Audition winner, laureate of the 1989 Montreal Competition and recipient of an Eleanor Steber Foundation award, he is co-founder and artistic director of the Midwest Institute of Opera.

ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY WIND SYMPHONY PERSONNEL

Piccolo, Flute and Alto Flute

Stefanie Abderhalden, *Naperville*
Nancy LaChapelle, *Negaunee, MI*
Kaitlyn Childs, *Lockport*
Pam Schuett, *Algonquin*
Robin Asay, *Geneseo*

Oboe and English Horn

Christina Elder, *McHenry*
Brad Cardella, *Lemont*

E-flat Clarinet

Lauren Willis, *Powder Springs, GA*

Clarinet

Mark Donahue, *Morton*
Beth Hildenbrand, *Fairbury*
Josh Wunderlich, *Alton*
Jamie Orzechowski, *Windsor, CO*
Bileshia Sproling, *Plainfield*
Lauren Willis, *Powder Springs, GA*
Kara Hale, *Joliet*

Low Clarinets

Gustav Johnson, *Fairbury*
Jason Landaiche, *Joliet*
Kara Hale, *Joliet*

Bassoon and Contrabassoon

Kay Schutte, *Bloomington*
Matt Kowalczyk, *West Dundee*

Saxophones

Thomas Giles, *Colorado Springs, CO*
Jodi Slagel, *Washington*
Brett Thole, *Breese*
Mitch Rogalla, *Geneva*
Tyler Rosenblume, *Aurora*

Horn

Nancy O'Neill, *Algonquin*
Saul Garland, *Mountain City, TN*
Christine Hansen, *Monroe, WI*
Allison Bellot, *Joliet*
Jerusha Johnson, *Kaysville, UT*
Alex Carlson, *Marengo*

Trumpet and Piccolo Trumpet

Erik Noska, *Lemont*
Greg Bechtold, *Derry, NH*
Greg Hensel, *West Aurora*
Pagean Sanders, *Mechanicsburg, PA*
Aaron Von Qualen, *Champaign*

Trombone

Megan Walls, *Ticonderoga, NY*
Corbin Huber, *Fairbury*
Justin Marxman, *Effingham*

Bass Trombone

James Mahowald, *Schaumburg*

Euphonium

Patrick Geren, *Rocky Face, GA*
Jeff Byrnes, *Hickory Hills*

Tuba

Katie Zdanowski, *Morton*
Tim Schachtschneider, *Minooka*

String Bass

Andrew Israelsen, *Aurora*
Laura Bass, *Vernon Hills*
Jeff Schaller, *Normal*

Piano

Mo Xu, *Changchun, China*

Harp

Molly McKenzie, *Urbana*

Percussion

Dan Bretz, *Crystal Lake*
Mallory Konstons, *Aurora*
Jeremy Johnston, *Maplewood, MN*
Dan Benson, *Chicago*
Matt Brusca, *Joplin, MO*
Deborah Carpi, *Las Vegas, NV*
Kyle Barshinger, *Galesburg*