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## The St. George Chamber Orchestra

James Kazik, conductor

### **Program**

**Palladio: Concerto Grosso  
for String Orchestra**                      **Karl Jenkins (b.1944)**

I. Allegretto  
II. Largo

**Theme and Variations  
for String Orchestra Op. 97**                      **Alexander Glazunov  
(1865-1936)**

**Serenade for Strings**                      **Dwight Gustafson (1930-2014)**

**Pastorale from Album  
pour mes petits amis, Op. 14, no. 1**                      **Gabriel Pierné  
(1863-1937)**

**Bouree**                      **Blas Maria de Colomer (1840-1917)**

**Highland Cathedral**                      **Korb and Reover (arr. Kazik)**

## Program notes

**Palladio: Concerto Grosso for String Orchestra** Karl Jenkins (b.1944)

**Palladio: Concerto Grosso for String Orchestra** was written in 1995. The title refers to the architect Andrea Palladio (1508–1580). Despite a final completion date in 1995 and publication in 1996, several motifs existed as early as 1993 and were used in a TV commercial for De Beers Jewelers, "A Diamond Is Forever".

In the published score the composer wrote:

*Palladio was inspired by the sixteenth-century Italian architect Andrea Palladio, whose work embodies the Renaissance celebration of harmony and order. Two of Palladio's hallmarks are mathematical harmony and architectural elements borrowed from classical antiquity, a philosophy which I feel reflects my own approach to composition. The first movement I adapted and used for the 'Shadows' A Diamond is Forever television commercial for a worldwide campaign. The middle movement I have since rearranged for two female voices and string orchestra, as heard in Cantus Insolitus from my work Songs of Sanctuary.*

**Theme and Variations  
for String Orchestra Op. 97**

Alexander Glazunov  
1865-1936)

Alexander Glazunov was born in 1865 and showed musical talent at a very young age. He began studying piano at age 9 and was considered a prodigy shortly after. He began composing at age 11 and was brought to the attention of composer Rimsky-Korsakov. Glazunov's natural talent opened doors and brought introductions which lead to early fame. Glazunov's musical activities included composing, performing, conducting, and teaching. From 1905-1928 Glazunov was director of the St. Petersburg Conservatory, an institution that would be reorganized many times due to political upheaval in Russia at the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Each time the Conservatory was reor-



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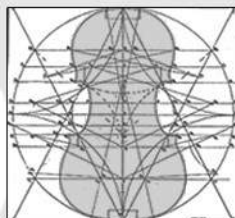
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ganized, Glazunov was there directing changes and advising. In 1928 Glasnov organized a tour of Europe and the U.S. He settled in Paris in 1929 and did not return to Russia claiming he was "in ill health." Glazunov died in 1936 at the age of 70. His music, by that time, was considered so old fashioned, that many people were shocked to hear that he had just died. They assumed he died long ago.

Glazunov's music is described as having the orchestral virtuosity of Rimsky-Korsakov, the lyricism of Tchaikovsky, and the contrapuntal technique of Talyev. Occasionally he was criticized for being slightly too academic and eclectic.

**Theme and Variations for String Orchestra Op. 97** is a standard theme and variation form. The string orchestra version was arranged by the composer in 1917 from a string quartet composed in 1895. Within the seven variations we hear expert string writing. Each section of the string orchestra is given a feature variation. The tone colors of each instrument are used expertly to create texture and contrast. We hear a simple flowing melody reminiscent of Russian folk tunes and Orthodox chant.

### Serenade for Strings

Dwight Gustafson (1930-2014)

Dwight Gustafson was born in Seattle Washington. His father was a lay preacher and his mother was a musician. Gustafson received violin lessons at an early age but was more interested in a career in art and design. He earned a M.A. in music from Bob Jones University and a D. Mus. in composition from Florida State. He became dean of the School of Fine Arts at Bob Jones University in 1954. In 1960 he was selected to study conducting at the Aspen School of Music.

In part thanks to Gustafson's art and music background, he was an effective administrator, educator, and composer. His successor as dean of the School of Fine Arts, Darren Lawson, is quoted as saying of Gustafson, "He acted, designed sets, sang, composed, conducted. He did it all. He really was a Renaissance man."

**Serenade for Strings** was published in 1998 and has been used in educational circles for 16 years. The work features lush, expressive harmonies. It demands control of all players. In educational circles, the work has been used to expand the technique of young violinists.

**Pastorale from Album  
pour mes petits amis, Op. 14, no. 1**

Gabriel Pierné  
(1863-1937)

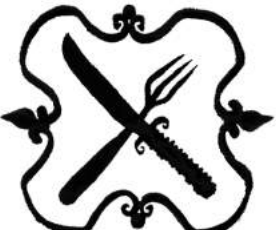
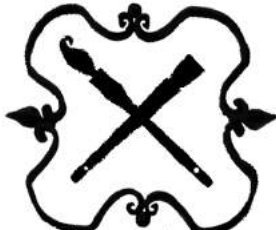

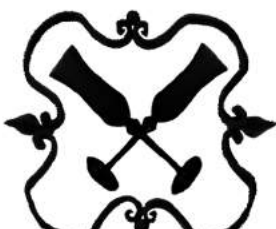
Gabriel Pierné was a composer, conductor, and organist of some influence in Paris at the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Little is known of Pierné's early music training, however, in 1882 Pierné received first prizes (a.k.a. graduation with honors to us here in the States) in sol-fège, piano, organ, counterpoint, and fugue. Pierné succeeded Cesar Franck as organist of St. Clotilde Basilica in Paris from 1890-1898. As a conductor, Pierné conducted the world premiere of Stravinsky's *Firebird* for the Ballet Russe in Paris in 1910. Pierné remained conductor of the Ballet Russe until 1933.

Pierné's compositional output is small but reflective of his musical activities. There are many works for ballet, theater, and opera, and a small number of works for smaller ensembles. **Pastorale from Album pour mes petits amis, Op. 14, no. 1** was originally the opening movement from one of two surviving piano collections. The Pastorale has been transcribed for a variety of ensembles, from wind quintets to mixed winds and strings. The piano writing and the form of the pastoral with its' open harmonies and lilting 6/8 melodies seems to lend itself to a variety of color possibilities.

**Bouree** Blas Maria de Colomer (1840-1917)


Very little seems to be known about Colomer's early life. He was born in Valencia, Spain in 1840. He studied piano and organ in Valencia until about 1851. The next record we have of him is earning first prize in piano in (1861) and first prize in harmony (1863) from the Paris Conservatory. He became a citizen of France and taught pi-

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ano and harmony for the rest of his life.

The majority of his works are operas and piano pieces. One source claims that **Boureé** is an original work for woodwind quintet, however, a catalogue of his works does not mention any works for woodwind quintet. It seems more likely that **Boureé** is a transcription for one of his piano works. Colomer's main body of works seem to have been composed between the 1860s and the mid-1880s. It would seem likely that the **Boureé** dates from the earlier period. The **Boureé** is an ABA form. It features a spritely and delightful melody. The arrangement for woodwind quintet makes excellent use of the instruments of the woodwind chorus.

### Highland Cathedral

Korb and Reover (arr. Kazik)

**Highland Cathedral** has become a popular tune since its' inception in 1982. The tune was intended to be played on The Great Highland Bagpipes. Ironically, the tune was written by two German men for the opening ceremony of Highland Games held in Germany that year. (I had no idea that Germans were Scotch-o-philes!) The tune has become so popular that it has been proposed to become the Scottish National Anthem replacing several unofficial anthems that are currently in use. Lyrics were added to the tune in 1990 and are in both English and Scottish Gaelic.

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*Kelly Kazik holds a Doctor of Musical Arts from the University of Maryland and serves as staff program writer for the St. George Chamber Orchestra.*

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## Bios

### James Kazik, conductor

James Kazik has been a staff arranger with The United States Army Band, "Pershing's Own" since 2001.

As an arranger and orchestrator, his arrangements have been performed not only by all of the various elements of "Pershing's Own", but also by various groups to include the National Symphony Orchestra, and recorded by Joseph Alessi and the Juilliard Trombone Choir, as heard on Alessi's recording Return to Sorrento. He is also a staff writer for Hal Leonard Corp in their string department, writing pop arrangements and compositions for easy string ensembles. As a composer, his works, particularly those for trombone, continue to win acclaim both in the U.S. and abroad. Mr. Kazik has written several concerti and solo works, as well as various works for orchestra, brass ensemble, and wind ensemble, performed by such groups as The University of North Texas Wind Symphony, and the Wind Ensembles of The University of Minnesota and Oklahoma State University. His wind ensemble orchestration of his Concerto for Trombone, and composition Eviler Elves was featured by the OSU Wind Ensemble at the 2009 CBDNA National Conference in Austin, TX.

As a trombonist, Mr. Kazik was a finalist in the 2000 Minnesota Orchestra-Zellmer Competition. He was part of the 1998 Remington Trombone choir winner and was a member of the "Bravura" trombone octet, which won 2 consecutive Downbeat Magazine awards for "Best Classical Chamber Ensemble" in 1999 and 2000.

### John Vreeland—Artistic Director

John came to St. George's in 2005, after multiple careers as a

public school music teacher, professional musician and church musician. Under his leadership, St. George's music program has grown to include three adult and two children's choirs, a jazz ensemble, chamber ensemble, hand bell choir and two concert series. An active composer and arranger, he has written extensively for St. George's choral and instrumental ensembles. He holds a Bachelor of Science degree in music education from Nazareth College of Rochester, NY and a Master of Music degree in organ performance from the University of Buffalo.

### The St George Chamber Orchestra

Founded by series Co-Artistic Directors Tina Christie and John Vreeland, the St. George Chamber Orchestra is committed to performing a varied repertoire for small orchestra from several historical periods. The orchestra performs three concerts per year as part of the chamber music series.

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## The St. George Chamber Orchestra

### Flute

Tina Christie

### Oboe

Melissa McCreary

### Clarinet

Lisa Bogardus

### Alto Trombone

James Kazik

### Violin

Jarrett Rodriguez

### Violin

Andy Cole

Kevin Crowder

Caroline Dunmire

Connor Skelly

Meghan Townes

### Viola

Ron Barricklow

Kelly Barricklow

### Cello

Rebekah Caulk

### Bass

John Zarzour