

# HOUGHTON COLLEGE

GREATBATCH SCHOOL OF MUSIC

*presents*

## Composition Department Recital

There is no reception following this program.

Composers at Houghton College are students of Prof. Christopher Ashbaugh, Dr. David Hanner, and Dr. Carrie Magin and are presenting this recital in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Bachelor of Music degree in Music Composition.

As a courtesy to the performer and your fellow audience members, please be certain that all cell phones, watch alarms, and pagers are either turned off or set for silent operation. Flash photography can be very disconcerting to performers and is not permitted during the performance. Thanks for your cooperation.

Recital Hall  
Center for the Arts  
Friday, December 7th, 2018  
6:30 p.m.

**Program**

**To Lead** **Ernest Schelp**

Jacob Hoskins and Derek Jaques, trumpets; Ethan Carr, horn; Tobin  
Sundstrom, trombone; Jordan Simmons, tuba

**Blinding Light** **Derek Jaques**

Dillon Hirsch, soprano saxophone; David Dytschkowskyj; alto saxophone,  
Derek Chase, baritone saxophone

**Magical Discovery** **Ethan Carr**

Alyssa Pyne, flute

**Beyond the Grey** **Lawrance Perez**

Hannah Hawes, piano

**The Sea** **Ernest Schelp**

Ryan Nickelsen, piano

## Program Notes

**To Lead**, Ernest Schelp - A Defeat, the first movement of the Brass Quintet titled "To Lead", depicts an army far from home that has just been soundly defeated on the battlefield. The slow, somber opening trumpet and the repetitive nature of the main theme portray the monotony and despair of the men as they flee the field in disgrace.

**Blinding Light**, Derek Jaques - *Blinding Light* is a musical portrait of an idyllic sunrise via saxophone trio. The piece begins with the captivating peace and warmth of daybreak before bursting into the majesty of the Sun's full force. The two themes alternate repeatedly before merging into one image of *Blinding Light*. The slow theme features lush and colorful chords with a playful melody as inspired by Eric Whitacre and Aaron Perrine, while the fast theme features a soaring and driving melody influenced by Nobuo Uematsu and Koji Kondo. The thematic contrast combined with the saxophone's ability to create a wide variety of textures creates a truly unique and modern approach to Romantic era program music.

**Magical Discovery**, Ethan Carr - Imagine the excitement of learning that you are a wizard or witch. The piece "Magical Discovery" explores the energy involved in different aspects of this journey through the use of only a single interval and its inversion in each movement. Sit back and let the journey enchant you from the discovery of a wand, to practicing your first spell.

**Beyond the Grey**, Lawrance Perez -

I. The first difficulty I encountered writing this piece was that I was limited to using only certain notes in my composition (F, A, B, E). Something that intrigued me was the dissonance that each note had when put together with others. I used pretty simple rhythmic material, but I believe it works well with the notes that were provided.

II. In this piece, I was limited by using fewer notes than first movement (G, Bb, E), so the task was a bit more challenging. This piece tells a story about repetition in life. Sometimes our lives may feel as if they are in cycles, but maybe one day they'll break from that cycle.

III. This last movement represents hope and a chance to better oneself. This was also a piece where the notes were limited (C, Db, Eb, F). The way the piece progresses represents growth, love, and the overall freedom to express itself.

**The Sea**, Ernest Schelp - This piece, a selection from the Piano Sonata entitled "Castle on an Island", depicts the nature of the seas surrounding the island on which the castle is set. The piece consists of three sections which portray the constant yet subtle motion of the calm sea, the second section shows the calm power of the sea to shape the land that it comes into contact with, and the third section highlights the rolling continuity of the waves with a repetitive triplet rhythm.