



# Shakespeare's Sister

Women in the  
Arts Concert



Designed by NOVA Studio | Northern Virginia Community College | Alexandria Campus



# Music At Nova Alexandria

## ALEXANDRIA MUSIC DEPARTMENT

*Lisa C. Eckstein, NOVA Alexandria Band, Director*

*John Kocur, NOVA Jazz Ensemble Director*

*Dr. Jonathan Kolm, Music Faculty & Assistant Dean*

*Dr. Mark Whitmire, NOVA Community Chorus Director*

*Britt Conley, Administrative Assistant*

*Dr. Robert Petrella, Alexandria Band Founding Director*

*Dr. Jimmie McClellan, Dean for Liberal Arts*

**MAY 1, 2015**

## Program

**"Shakespeare's Sister"** *A Room of One's Own* ..... Virginia Woolfe  
*Rachel Martin*

**Albanian Dance** ..... Shelley Hanson  
*NOVA Alexandria Band (Josh Readshaw, guest conductor)*

**"New Feet Within My Garden Go"** ..... Emily Dickinson  
*Rachel Martin*

**I Will Be Earth** ..... Gwyneth Walker  
*NOVA Community Chorus*

**"May Flower"** ..... Emily Dickinson  
*Rachel Martin*

**Mountain Aire** ..... Maria Schneider  
*NOVA Jazz Ensemble*

## Program cont'd

**"The Moment"** ..... Margaret Attwood  
*Rachel Martin*

**The Settling Years** ..... Libby Larsen  
*NOVA Community Chorus*  
*Ashley Weitzel, Flute Aleeyah Frye, Clarinet Mila Weiss, Oboe*  
*Lisa Eckstein, Bassoon Margaret Forman, French Horn*

**"Poetry is not a luxury"** ..... Audre Lorde  
*Rachel Martin*

**Fascinating Ribbons** ..... Joan Tower  
*NOVA Alexandria Band*

**Summer Nights movements V and VI** ..... Amy Beach  
*Jonathan Kolm and Ja-Hye Koo*

**Excerpt from "On Strike Against God"** ..... Joanna Russo  
*Rachel Martin*

**Still I Rise** ..... Rosephayne Powell  
*NOVA Community Chorus*

**Walkin' and Swingin'** ..... Mary Lou Williams  
*NOVA Jazz Ensemble*

**Il Burlone** ..... Julie Giroux  
*NOVA Alexandria Band*



## Introduction to Tonight's Concert

Welcome to "Shakespeare's Sister!" Tonight's concert was first conceived as part of the 2014-2015 academic year theme of Equality/Inequality for the Liberal Arts Division at the Alexandria Campus of Northern Virginia Community College. Tonight you will hear a mixture of Throughout history, women have not had equal opportunity to develop their artistic abilities and talents. Nineteenth century composer and pianist Robert Schumann remarked once of his wife Clara, "If only she had the time to pursue her music, what she might accomplish." Clara was a virtuoso pianist and very talented composer herself, but because of social conventions of the time and place to which she was born, she was disenfranchised because of her gender and she did not have the avenues to pursue her composition as her husband did.

Our program opens with an eloquent prose excerpt from the pen of Virginia Woolf that posits the idea that, what if William Shakespeare, one of the literary icons of western literature, had a sister who was just as talented and gifted a writer as he was? Would she have had the same chance to study Latin, Greek, philosophy and poetry? Would she have been allowed to be an actor and playwright? Would we know her name at all? We then experience an hour's worth of music, poetry and visual art that give voice to other women creators that, despite all the obstacles in their path, found a way to make art and reflect on the human condition.

We'd like to give a special thanks to Communication Design faculty Lisa Hill and Angela Terry for working with their students in the NOVA Studio program to create the wonderful visual art and graphics you will see tonight:

Mariana Brito - Opening Video,  
Jennifer Bradley - Title Slides  
Anne LeongSon - "I Will Be Earth"  
Pratika Appaiah - "Elfin Tarantelle" and "Goodnight"  
Kevin Ramirez- "New Feet Within My Garden Go" and "May Flower"

Also vital to tonight's concert is our narrator, Rachel Martin, who serves as English faculty and runs the Writing Center and selected the texts you will hear this evening.

We thank you so much for joining us tonight, enjoy the concert and we hope to see you at a future music department event.

Jonathan Kolm,  
Assistant Dean, Music Department  
Northern Virginia Community College, Alexandria Campus

## Program Notes

### Albanian Dance

This high-energy setting of the Albanian tune *Shota* re-creates the festive mood of a raucous village dance.

### I Will Be Earth

Gwyneth Walker has created a large body of choral music that is widely performed throughout the country. Her music is well-loved by performers and audiences alike for its beauty, reverence, drama, and humor. She resigned from the music faculty of the Oberlin College Conservatory employment in 1982 in order to devote herself to full-time composition. For nearly 30 years, she has lived on a dairy farm in Braintree, Vermont. *I Will Be Earth* is a musical setting of a love poem by American poet May Swenson (1913-1989). Much of Swenson's life was spent in Greenwich Village, where she was a chancellor of the Academy of American Poets.

### Mountain Aire

Maria Schneider is one of the leading voices in jazz composition today. Critics have called her music as "evocative, majestic, magical, heart-stoppingly gorgeous, and beyond categorization." Her accolades include ten GRAMMY nominations and three awards. She was the first artist to win a GRAMMY award for a "fan-funded" recording. The Maria Schneider Orchestra performs her music at festivals and concert halls worldwide. In addition to her professional artistic endeavors, she has contributed repertoire specifically for school jazz ensembles through publishers such as Kendor music. She is recognized as one of the most significant women in jazz history and is honored each year at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts "Mary Lou Williams Women in Jazz Festival."

### The Settling Years

Libby Larsen has composed over 500 works spanning virtually every genre from vocal and chamber music to works for large orchestra and over 15 operas. There have been more than fifty recordings of her work, including several Grammy award-winning recordings. She has received numerous commissions from major artists and orchestras around the world, and her works have found a permanent place in the concert repertoire. The Settling Years is based on poetry by American pioneers. The texts are full of the kind of raw energy, frontier spirit, and self-confidence that must have characterized the early settlers of the West. The first movement, "Comin' to town," paints a picture of bawdy, rowdy and raucous cowboys after a month on the range. The second, "Beneath these alien stars," speaks of the power of nature to speak to and strengthen the human spirit. The third, "A Hoopla," depicts a



## Program Notes

barn dance as the singers circle around the band, boisterously stomping and clapping. *The Settling Years* was commissioned and premiered by The Singing Sergeants and the United States Air Force Band.

### Fascinating Ribbons

"Fascinating Ribbons" was Joan Tower's first piece written for band and was commissioned by members of the College Band Directors National Association (CBDNA) in 2001. The title comes from the flowing, ribbon-like scale passages within the eight sections of this piece. There is symmetry in the overall form: The first and eighth sections respectively provide an introduction and a closing; the second and seventh sections are similar in length and both contain the *duet ribbon* and *florid ribbon*; the third and sixth sections both contain the *swirling ribbon* and the *staccato ribbon*; and the two central sections both contain the *ponderous ribbon*. Octatonic scales and motives containing the interval of a minor 3<sup>rd</sup> are prominent throughout this piece. One of the rhythmic motives was taken from George Gershwin's "Fascinating Rhythms."

### Summer Nights

Composer Amy Beach is known for her prolific writing of piano and chamber music in a late Romantic/early Impressionistic idiom. Easily the best known female American composer of the late 19th and early 20th centuries, she offers up a delightful suite for four hands with "Summer Dreams." We will hear the fifth and sixth movements, "Elfin Tarantelle" a fast, delightful fantasy and "Good Night," a gentle, restful ending.

### Still I Rise

Rosephanye Powell is an American choral composer, singer, professor, and researcher. She has a large and diverse catalogue of works published by some of the nation's leading publishers. Her compositions include sacred and secular works for mixed chorus, women's chorus, men's chorus, and children's voices. Dr. Powell has written, "Still I Rise was inspired by the poem of the same name by poet laureate Maya Angelou. It is a women's anthem, saluting the strength of women to persevere through life's difficulties—low self-esteem, physical and emotional abuse, rape, incest, prejudice, abandonment, and such like. In summary, though a woman's life or past may be filled with tears and heartaches, with each day that she finds herself still living, she finds that she has grown stronger and risen a little higher because her circumstances have not overcome her. Thus, every new day can be one of hope and joy because regardless of the past, today, "still I rise"!

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### Walkin' and Swingin'

"Walkin' and Swingin'" was first recorded in 1936 by Andy Kirk's Clouds of Joy, a big band from the Kansas City tradition that includes Count Basie. The composer, Mary Lou Williams (1910-1981), played piano on that recording. She toured extensively with the group and was their primary arranger. She sustained a long career in jazz, performing on numerous recordings and publishing compositions both small and large. Highlights include her "Zodiac Suite" and a jazz mass performed on television and at St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York, NY. She is recognized as one of the most significant women in jazz history and is honored each year at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts.

### Il Burlone "The Jester"

Notes from the composer: "*Il Burlone* is the second of three works dedicated to outstanding clinicians I had the privilege to work with while in high school (1977-1979). Three times Christopher Izzo was my honor band conductor and three times I was left with the feeling that I had been a part of something not just special, but monumental.

Incredibly witty and articulate, he made us all feel good about the music and ourselves. Mr. Izzo was quick with praise and his lightly applied criticism was always accented with a joke or funny story. It was absolutely wonderful.

I cannot recall the pieces we performed – just him. As a result, this piece does not reflect on any of those works but, instead, is centered solely on Chris – his personality, his energy, his passion, his musicianship and, of course, his timeless delivery of combined knowledge and humor.

In life, so many of us find that after all is said and done, we prefer the one who makes us laugh! 'Chris, this one is for you!' For Christopher Izzo and his magical mixture of learning and laughter" –Julie Giroux



## Texts

### "I Will Be Earth"

Music by Gwyneth Walker

Text by May Swenson

I will be Earth, you be the flower  
You have found my root, you are the rain.

I will be boat and you the rower  
You rock me, you toss me, you are the sea.

How be steady earth that's now a flood?  
The root is the oar afloat where has blown our bud.

We will be desert, pure salt the seed.  
Burn radiant love, born scorpion need.

## NOVA Community Chorus

### Soprano 1

Jesse Calzado-  
Esponda  
Lene Jensen  
Terri Lagoe  
Bahar Pinto  
Michelle Puleio  
Judith Robb  
Maria Rynn  
Jennifer Weger  
Theresa Wells  
Mary Yee

### Soprano 2

Rachael Abbott  
Karen Besser  
Elaine Cassel  
Cathy Clark  
Lisa Clark  
Pat Connors  
Margaret Harrison  
Karisaca Hatten  
Michelle Lewis  
Barbara Lowrey  
Marty Maher  
Lucy Matthews  
Jadranka Stevic  
Nancy Ruth Wood

### Alto 1

Ellie Briscoe  
Elizabeth Bull  
Melanie Casey  
Kate Cantrell  
Pat Flagg  
Holly Handley

### Joy Joyner

Agnes Malicka  
Marion Mangus  
Deborah Peetz  
Carol Pelenberg  
Mariza Plunkett  
Katy Rinaman  
Shirley Robinson  
Jane Roningen  
Mary Shilton  
Kaylee Shuey

### Alto 2

Halina Banas-Jones  
Arlene Brigida  
Ella Curry  
Martha Evans  
Nancy Ford-Kohne  
Ruth Herndon  
Joyce Lombardi  
Tyra Newman  
Vicki Ratcliffe  
Annette Reilly  
Carol Uri  
Barbara Wade  
Judy Wulff

### Tenor 1

John Connors  
Tom Donlan  
Estee Herndon  
Kristopher Kouzougian  
Bill Reilly  
Francisco Robles

### Tenor 2

Larry Goldschmidt  
Jerry Moore  
Jimmy Portocarrero  
James Schader  
Frank Vasquez

### Bass 1

John Clark  
Bernie Cohen  
Greg Culbertson  
Walter Gans  
Ghirmay Habtezion  
Lock Handley  
Mark Johnson  
Richard Kennedy  
Ray Lombardi  
Tom Moser  
Tom Munger  
Tim Rinaman  
Sasa Stevic  
Pete VandenBosch  
Fred Wulff

### Bass 2

Alan Bunner  
Larry Carnahan  
Anthony Clarke  
Bob Clark  
Michael DeHart  
Richard Fonda  
Nick King  
Alan Krause  
Matthew Relton  
Will Russell  
David Shultz



## NOVA Alexandria Band

### Flutes

Jeff Cates  
Grace Endres  
Maria Sanabria  
Fernandez  
Alison Lattu  
Pam Sweeney  
Paula Underwood  
Ashley Weitzel  
Joe Wimbrough

### Oboe

Mila Weiss

### Oboe & English Horn

Deb Fuller

### Eb and Bb Clarinets

Caryl Salters

### Bb Clarinets

Ashley Begley  
Judy Bendig  
Adrienne Cannon  
Aleeyah Frye  
Connie Handley  
Bob Petrella  
Mauricio Romero  
James Schader  
Sue Shapiro  
Sheryl Stankowski  
Amanda Wilcox

### Bass Clarinet

Tom Roberts

### Bassoons

Rachel Collins  
Billy Faggart

### Saxophones

Michael Barr  
Momina Di Blasio  
Jairo Chavez  
Hamilton Jackson  
Sharon Jones

### French Horns

Pam Adams  
Brenda Crist  
Margaret Forman  
Amanda Griesser  
Beth Knickerbocker  
Laura Koss  
Harris Wood

### Trumpets

Erick Chiang  
Larry Craven  
Glenn Fatzinger  
Sam Gousen  
Josh Readshaw  
Karen Sellars

### Trombones

Jonell Freese  
David Karseboom  
Dan Merriman  
Alexander Rogge

### Euphoniums

Michael Brooke  
James Fonda  
Dean Kauffman  
Ray Keddell

### Tubas

Christopher Khourey  
Sean Romiti-Schulze  
Sidney Wade  
Stephen Wilken

### Percussion

James Adams  
Elaine Halchin  
Cora Hodges  
Devin Howell  
Tim Nuhfer  
Nick Ross

### Piano

Ashley Begley

## NOVA Jazz Ensemble

### Saxophone

Michael Barr  
Momina Di Blasio  
James Stephan  
David Miller  
Jairo Chavez

### Trumpet

Ron Umbeck  
Joshua Readshaw  
Larry Craven

### Trombone

Andrew Taylor

### Piano

Owen Squire

### Guitar

Ayal Sharon  
Daniel Zielinski  
Burvin Jenkins

### Bass

Zachary Williams

### Drums

James Adams  
James Adelsberger  
William McCarthy

## NOVA Alexandria Band Annual Awards

The "Billy Award" is named after Bill Bovender. Bill was a founding member of the Alexandria Band who played flute and died at the age of 38 in 1995 leaving a wife & three small children. Bill's devotion to the band was unmatched and each year we award the "Billy" to a band member who shares that loyalty. This year, the "Billy Award" winner is clarinet player, Sue Shapiro.

The "Betty Award" is named after Betty Brown, who played French Horn with the Alexandria Band for 25 years and was a recipient of the "Billy" Award. She was devoted to music & education and served as president of the Women's Committee for the National Symphony. When she passed away, the NOVA Band & her friends decided to honor her with an annual scholarship to a NOVA Band music major in her name. This year, the "Betty Award" winner is clarinet player, Aleeyah Frye.



