



FREDONIA
SCHOOL of MUSIC

SOREL VISITING ARTIST



JENNIFER HIGDON

Part 2 of 2: March 5-8, 2025

THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK AT FREDONIA

Claudette Sorel and The Sorel Organization

Claudette Sorel (1932-1999) was an accomplished pianist, world-class performer, and music educator. Her career touched the lives of many with more than 2,000 concert, recital, and festival appearances, and performances with more than 200 orchestras, including the New York Philharmonic, Boston Symphony, Philadelphia Orchestra, London Symphony, and NBC Symphony. She held a professorship at the State University of New York at Fredonia, where she was head of the piano area for 13 years. In 1969, Claudette Sorel was designated by the State University of New York Board of Trustees as the youngest and first woman "Distinguished University Professor," among a faculty of 30,000.

Claudette Sorel's deep-rooted legacy with SUNY Fredonia continues to provide opportunities that celebrate the creativity and excellence of musicianship. She was a tireless advocate for the advancement of women and in 1996, she established the Elizabeth and Michel Sorel Charitable Organization, named in memory of her parents.

After her death in 1999, Sorel Trustees carried on her mission to expand opportunities and stretch the boundaries for women musicians in the fields of conducting, composition, film scoring, performance, arts leadership, technology, education, and scholarship. She was particularly interested in women composers and conductors, seeing these as measurable areas of change in gender equity.

Notable activities of The Sorel Organization (www.SorelMusic.org) include Sorel Medallions in Recording, the Sorel Classics label, the Sorel Choral Competition for women composers, the Claudette Sorel Piano Competition, composer residencies in the UK and USA, and multiple scholarships and commissions. When the Sorel Organization closed its doors at the end of 2024, it left a legacy of nine Claudette Sorel endowment funds at the New York Philharmonic, American Composers Forum, American Composers Orchestra, American Pianists Association, National Arts Club, New Music USA, New York University (film music scholarships), Voices of Ascension, and the State University of New York at Fredonia where Claudette Sorel taught for many years.

The Fredonia School of Music is deeply grateful for The Sorel Organization's generous support of the Claudette Sorel Visiting Artist series.

Sorel Visiting Artist Series

Chen Yi

2022–2023

Valerie Coleman

2023–2024

Jennifer Higdon

2024–2025

Sorel Visiting Artist Committee Members:

Professor Barry Crawford

Dr. Rob Deemer

Dr. Natasha Farny

Dr. Paula Holcomb

Dr. Eliran Avni

Professor Laura Koepke

Professor Julie Newell

Dr. Emily Schaad

Dr. Kay Stonefelt

The SUNY Fredonia School of Music extends our deepest appreciation to
The Sorel Organization for their generous support of these residencies.

Thank you!



SOREL VISITING ARTIST: JENNIFER HIGDON

Jennifer Higdon, (b. Brooklyn, NY; New Year's Eve, 1962) makes her living solely from commissions and publishing. Her works represent a range of genres, from chamber to orchestral and wind ensemble, as well as vocal, choral and opera.

Higdon's list of commissioners is extensive and includes The Philadelphia Orchestra, The Chicago Symphony, The Cleveland Orchestra, and the St. Paul Chamber Orchestra, as well such groups as the Tokyo String Quartet, the Lark Quartet, Eighth Blackbird, and the President's Own United States Marine Band. She has also written works for such renowned artists as baritone Thomas Hampson and mezzo Sasha Cooke; pianists Yuja Wang and Gary Graffman; and violinists Joshua Bell, Nadja Salerno-Sonnenberg, and Hilary Hahn. Her first opera, *Cold Mountain*, was commissioned by Santa Fe Opera, Opera Philadelphia, North Carolina Opera, and Minnesota Opera. It was awarded the prestigious International Opera Award for Best World Premiere in 2016; a suite from that opera was recently co-commissioned and performed by a group of 36 orchestras.

Upcoming premieres for the '24-25 season include a new opera for Pittsburgh Opera, a chamber work for the Icarus Quartet, and an orchestral work for the Chicago Youth Symphony.

Jennifer received the 2010 Pulitzer Prize in Music for her *Violin Concerto*. She is also a three-time Grammy-winner.

Her music has been hailed by *Fanfare Magazine* as having "the distinction of being at once complex, sophisticated but readily accessible emotionally", with the *Times* of London citing it as "...traditionally rooted yet imbued with integrity and freshness." The *Chicago Sun Times* recently cited her music as "both modern and timeless, complex and sophisticated, and immensely engaging in a way that both charms and galvanizes an audience craving something new and full of urgency, yet not distancing." John von Rhein of the *Chicago Tribune* called her writing, "beautiful, accessible, inventive, and impeccably crafted."

Higdon enjoys more than 250 performances annually of her works. Her orchestral work, *blue cathedral*, is one of the most performed contemporary orchestral pieces in the repertoire (having had more than 1,100 performances).

Jennifer's works have been recorded on more than 90 CDs. The Library of Congress has added the London Philharmonic recording of her Percussion Concerto to the National Recording Registry.

She was recently inducted into the American Academy of Arts and Letters and the American Philosophical Society (founded by Benjamin Franklin).

For more information: www.jenniferhigdon.com

Fredonia Wind Symphony

Wednesday, March 5, 2025 at 8PM

SUNY Fredonia | King Concert Hall



Donna Dolson, conductor

Machine (2003)

Jennifer Higdon (b. 1962)

Bacchanale from Samson and Delilah (1877)

Camille Saint-Saëns
(1835–1921)

Why Not (1985/2019)

Michel Camilo (b. 1954)

This Cruel Moon (2014/2017)

John Mackey (b. 1973)

short Intermission

Extreme Makeover (2004)

John de Meij (b. 1953)

Fredonia Wind Symphony Personnel

Flute

Annabelle Mercure, Picc
Sydney Scudday
Madison Abbott
Jazmine Green
Sophia Saeli
Anna Foley
Shannon Colombo

Oboe

Angelo Sanders

Clarinet

Remy Schad
Madison Howard
Natalie Navis, Eb
Aurelia Chudy
Bree Nickson
Iman Ahsan
Alexa Batuyong, Bass
Jordan Caruso, Bass

Bassoon

Vanessa Patterson
Katelyn Margut
Spencer Galfunt, Contra

Saxophone

Matthew Schnauffer
Alex Coulombe
Dan Raczka, Bari
Liam Ortiz
Amya Softic
Sophia Arcuri, Tenor

Trumpet

Connor McGee
Cassandra Cerone
Colin Marzec
Stephanie Vargas

Horn

Margaret Drennan
Kaela Briggs
Vincent Verzi
Alexiana Clarke

Trombone

Sam Wozniak, Co-principal
Charles Radomski, Co-principal
Matthew O'Heron
Isabella Garey
Edward Angelo
Camden Leonard, Bass

Euphonium

Aiden O'Donnell

Tuba

Zachary Navratil, Co-principal
Alyssa Shimmel, Co-principal
Chris Halinski
Paj Huson

Percussion

Lisa Lape, Timpani
Gabriel Mark
Jackson Cain
Patrick Gibson
Zachary Cole
Timothy Brandon

String Bass

Gissel Rosa
Nicholas Ragusa
Ryan Verderame
Henry Westgard

Fredonia Concert Band

Thursday, March 6, 2025 at 8PM

SUNY Fredonia | King Concert Hall

Dr. Carrie Pawelski, conductor

Intrinsic Travels (2009)

Michael Markowski (b. 1986)

Road Stories, Mvt 3, Rail Lights (2010)

Jennifer Higdon (b. 1962)

Down A Country Lane (1962/1991)

Aaron Copland (1900-1990)

transcribed by Merlin Patterson

Handel In the Strand (1912/1962)

Percy Grainger (1882-1961)

arr. Edwin Franko Goldman (1878-1956)

***played in tandem*

Uptilt (2022)

Katahji Copley (b. 1998)

Guest conducted by Devin C. Banning

Redline Tango (2004)

John Mackey (b. 1973)

Fredonia Concert Band Personnel

Flute

Alexis Fitcher, Picc
Mackenzie Coccia, Co-principal
Genna Schiffer, Co-principal
Aurelia Chudy
Abigail King
Lake Hoffman
Brenna Casterline
Malia Flusche
Crystal Castle
Mykala Rodriguez

Oboe

Payton Cotter
Abigail Pratt

Clarinet

Joseph Etrog, Eb
Natalie Navis
Jaxon Gohn
Noah Hamill
Barry Crawford
Jenna Heaney
Olivia Gatewood
Mateo Mendez
Edward Martinez
Alexandria Schuck, Bass
Lacy Drennen, Bass
Adam Resnik, Bass

Bassoon

Donald Keddle
Cody Norum
Michael Gallagher, Contra

Saxophone

Caio Amado, Co-principal
Ryan Alvarez, Co-principal
Ryan Allen
Andrew Young
Noah Joselyn
Delaney Donaldson
Sawyer Peters
Indigo Freeman, Tenor
Sarah Farrell, Tenor
Robert Capestany, Bari
Jacob Alma, Bari

Trumpet

Natalie Jacques
Ethan Buckley
Alex LoStracco
Lucas Castelo Barnum
James Deedy
Stephanie Vargas

Horn

Alexiana Clarke
Kaela Briggs
Madison Abbott
Nicky Flores
Kiefer McKinley

Trombone

Anmarie Kaczor
Justin Damiano
Cameron Foulk
Camden Leonard, Bass

Euphonium

Alexander Ovitt
Casey Haggerty
Matthew O'Heron

Tuba

Aidan Carney, Co-principal
Christian Scarfone, Co-principal
Mason Reisdorf
Matthew Leicht

Percussion

Abram Parsons, Timpani
Grady Britt
Noah Meyer
Ryan Mosher
Dawson Russo
Jared Knight
Marissa Williams
Rich Gainer

Chamber Music Works by Jennifer Higdon

Friday, March 7, 2025 | 8PM

SUNY Fredonia | Rosch Recital Hall

Nocturne, 2006

Che Dixon, cello

Hae-Yeun Jeun, piano

Autumn Music, 1995

Lyra Quintet

Madison Abbott, flute

Mateo Mendez, oboe

Joseph Etrog, bass clarinet

Alison Ribis, bassoon

Nathan Wright Bueno de Mesquita, horn

Coach: Dr. Sarah Hamilton

Southern Harmony, 2003

II. Reel Time

Marley Crane and Noah Grossbard, violins

Bryce McCandless, viola

Jonah Albert, cello

Coach: Dr. Eliran Avni

Southern Harmony

III. Gentle Waltz

The Valkyrie Quartet

Isabella Giraldo, Maia Anna, violins

Jenna Reppenhagen, viola

Molly Gibson, cello

Coach: Dr. Natasha Farny

Amazing Grace, arr. J. Higdon, 1998

Taylor Rakovic, Jenna Reppenhagen,

Bryce McCandless, Parker Hobel-Furrer, violas

Coach: Prof. David Rose

Notes of Gratitude, 2017

Camber Beauchamp, piano

Nocturne

Jonah Albert, cello

Hae-Yeun Jeun, piano

Summer Shimmers, 2008

The Perfect Fifth Quintet

Erin Quinn, flute

Alexi Fuentes, clarinet

Bug Medrano, oboe

Cate Palanski, bassoon

Matthew Bhasin, horn

Ben Miller, piano

Coach: Dr. Sarah Hamilton

Piano Trio, 2003

I. Pale Yellow

Boaz Mecham, violin

Che Dixon, cello

Aaron Mecham, piano

Coach: Dr. Natasha Farny

Fredonia College Symphony Orchestra

Saturday, March 8, 2025 at 8PM

SUNY Fredonia | King Concert Hall

Emily Schaad, director

Carillhoë Suite d'orchestre, op. 7 (1887)

I. Prélude

Cécile Chaminade

(1857–1944)

blue cathedral (2000)

Jennifer Higdon

(b. 1962)

Intermission

Symphony No. 3 in C minor (1938)

I. Andante; Allegro

II. Andante ma non troppo

III. Juba

IV. Scherzo. Finale

Florence Price

(1887–1953)

Fredonia College Symphony Orchestra Personnel

Flute
Robert Severs
Samantha Tirino
Erin Quinn

Piccolo
Jack Oliver
Samantha Tirino

Oboe
Joe Kelly
Jordan Kanick
Bug Medrano

English Horn
Bug Medrano

Clarinet
Joseph Etrog
Nicholas Galdemis
Dan West

Bass Clarinet
Nicholas Galdemis

Bassoon
Cate Palanski
Airlea Deutscher

Horn
Matthew Bhasin
Nathan Wright
Bueno de Mesquita
Jack Gust
Chloe Springer

Trumpet
Nicholas Cristoforo
Ethan Wellington
Andrew Faraci
John Szymusiak

Trombone
Miguel Ovando
David Lynch

Bass Trombone
Aidan Bieger

Tuba
Ivan Mofardin

Timpani
Greg Valentine

Percussion
Nathaniel Reyes
Dylan Hickey
Nigel Usiak
Logan Tendorf
Elijah Diaz
Daniel Hwang

Harp
Vincent Conlon

Violin 1
Aaron Mecham, principal
Maia Anna
Henri Buchet
Marley Crane
Esther Duclair
Emily Flores
Valeria Gracian
Noah Grossbard
Krista Kolberg
Venus Rodriguez
Andrea Waldmiller

Violin 2
Isabella Giraldo, principal
Alan Alvarez
Kevin Chicas
Morgan Christensen
Aidan Fuchs
Jacqueline Holmes
Kate Lopez Santiago
Nelly Lopez Zavala
Jordan Manocchi
Boaz Mecham
Adam Nowak
Ambriele Sessanna
Thomas Stone
Maura Talbett
Evan Wolitzer

Viola
Jenna Reppenhagen, principal
Gavin Aquino
Alana Bittner
Erich Brucker
Bryce McCandless
MacKenzie Hill
Parker Hobel-Furrer
Matthew Kenyon
Spencer Mace
Ryan Packard
Molly Radigan
Taylor Rakovic
Andrea Ramirez
Isabella Smith
Caitlin Tully

Cello
Jonah Albert, principal
Cooper Corcoran
Ché Dixon
Jack Duke
Bryce Endecott
Kieran Fending
Jacob McAvaney
Eugene Schunk
Maya-Rose Waletzky
Cade Wyles

Bass
Jared Reinard, principal
Leah Dylag
Blake Goehring
Sam Guzzo
Reign Kukoda
Seajay Lewis
Shannon Matthews
Ari Syposs
Isaiah Welch

Librarians
Kieran Fending
Gavin Aquino
Cade Wyles

Graduate Assistant
Tammam Odeh

Opera Scenes at the 1891 Fredonia Opera House

As part of Fredonia's Student Opera Theater Association's annual opera scenes program, we will present scenes from Jennifer Higdon's operatic setting of *Cold Mountain*.

Performance Dates:

Thursday, March 6, 2025 at 7PM

Friday, March 7, 2025 at 7PM

Saturday, March 8, 2025 at 2PM

These events are ticketed and will be held at the 1891 Fredonia Opera House, located at 9 Church St, Fredonia, NY 14063

Box office: (716) 679-0891

Full Cast List:

Dominic Townsend (Inman)

Mia Sorgi (Ada)

Lauren Shilansky (Ruby)

Teddy Van De Ven IV (Veasey)

Jude Chiarella (Pangle)

Carter Converse (Stobrod)

Esther Duclair (Lucinda)

Anna Evans (Sara/Laura)

Sara Kidane (Lila)

Kayla Coleman (Katie)

Margaret Edwards (Olivia)

Kaitlin Owen (Claire)

Junior Gino Thompson (Junior)

Ensemble includes:

Alexander Lysiak, Zach Formhals, Adam Brophy,
Michael Correy, Jack Dyer, and Sean Mahon

Faculty Biographies

excerpted bios, in alphabetical order

A member of the Chautauqua Symphony Orchestra, Grammy winner **Donna Dolson** has lived and played in ensembles in Japan, Norway, and Mexico. An extra player with the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, she has played four of their last European tours; Manfred Honneck, conductor. Dolson recorded Bruckner Symphony #7 with the PSO (playing horn and Wagner Tuba), Elektra Symphonic Rhapsody, and Shostakovich Symphony #5, which won the Grammy Award for Best Orchestral Performance in 2018.

This year, Ms. Dolson produced a Masterclass tour given by her horn teacher and mentor, world renown Norwegian pedagogue Frøydis Ree Wekre. Classes were held at SUNY Fredonia, Cleveland Institute of Music, Carnegie Mellon University, and the Eastman School of Music.

Dr. Emily Schaad started her career on violin and viola, attending The Juilliard School and Curtis Institute of Music as a viola performance major. She holds an MA in Appalachian Studies from Appalachian State University and a DMA in Music Education at Boston University. At Fredonia, she serves as Director of Orchestral Activities at Fredonia School of Music (State University of New York) where she conducts the Symphony, Chamber Orchestra, and Hillman Opera, and teaches conducting and old-time music.

Dr. Schaad's tenure includes serving as music director of Asheville Symphony Youth Orchestras (NC) and Greenville County Youth Orchestras (SC) and orchestra director at Clemson University as well as South Carolina Governors School for the Arts and Humanities. She is a founder of Stringendo Orchestra School and Strawberry Hill Fiddlers (NY). She has taught elementary, middle, and high school strings in New York State and is active as a guest conductor, violist, educational consultant, and old-time fiddler.

Dr. Carrie Pawelski has been a music educator for over twenty years and has enjoyed working with students of all levels and ages throughout her career. She is the Director of Bands at Jefferson Middle School in her hometown of Jamestown, NY where she has created a thriving band program that has engaged hundreds of at-risk students. In 2017 she joined the faculty of the SUNY Fredonia School of Music to serve as the director of the Concert Band. In addition, she has led the middle and high school bands at the Fredonia Summer Music Festival and has served on the faculty for a variety of conducting symposiums. Dr. Pawelski has written multiple chapters in the Teaching Music Through Performance series, as well as a chapter in The Conductor's Companion. She has conducted honor bands throughout the states of Texas, Arkansas and New York.

A highlight of Dr. Pawelski's undergraduate experience at the Eastman School of Music was studying trombone with Dr. John Marcellus who, along with tremendous talent, was known for his humor and "joie de vivre." She brings a similar cheerful and spirited energy to her students, helping to make art music more accessible for players and audiences alike. This approach informed her doctoral research at Arizona State University, where she explored how to make music education more relevant by building community and a sense of belonging through social justice work.



FREDONIA COLLEGE FOUNDATION

The Fredonia College Foundation, established in 1964, is devoted to the advancement and excellence of Fredonia and its students. Each year, the foundation provides funding for student scholarships, grants, and special academic enrichment. The scholarships we provide to students in support of their goals is central to our mission. Thanks to the generosity of private philanthropic support to the funds held at the foundation, we were able to provide an annual average of \$2.3 million in scholarships, grants, and academic enrichment programming over the past five years.

In 2026, the State University of New York at Fredonia will be celebrating 200 years of providing individuals with an opportunity to grow both personally and professionally. This historic mark of a bicentennial year inspires us to look forward, and continue to build a sustainable campus that is prepared to pivot, adapt, and change. Fredonia recognizes the importance of personal empowerment through the acquisition of knowledge and experiences. Fredonia is an educational institution that places great value on diversity, equity, and inclusion. By continuing to offer support through scholarship and programming, Fredonia has the ability to impact more students. Through private funding, grants, and scholarships Fredonia is further enabled to make education accessible and affordable to all, thus increasing a student's potential for social mobility.

Please consider how your generosity can help Fredonia prepare future generations to succeed. ***Fredonia.edu/give***





View program notes



Fredonia is training the next generation of music professionals, and our graduates are poised to take the lead in reimagining and reshaping how music connects us.

We serve more than 500 undergraduate and graduate students in ten degree programs:

Bachelor of Music: Music Education, Music Performance, Music Composition

Bachelor of Science: Music Therapy, Sound Recording Technology

Bachelor of Arts: Music (General, Jazz, Music History, Entrepreneurship, Music Technology)

Master of Music: Music Education, Music Performance, Music Therapy, Music Composition

The SUNY Fredonia School of Music provides experiential and scholarly learning opportunities on a beautiful, vibrant, and inclusive liberal arts campus. Our award-winning faculty and alumni exemplify our commitment to cultivating humanity, skills, and creativity to serve our rapidly changing world.

find out more:

fredonia.edu/music



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