

*The* University of  
*Southern*  
*Mississippi*



**The Wind Ensemble**  
*Thomas V. Fraschillo, Conductor*

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ IN CONCERT

December 2, 2004

COMPACT  
**disc**  
DIGITAL AUDIO

**VIKII**  
**VESTIGE**  
GR01-1201

# The University of South Mississippi

## SCHOOL OF MUSIC - UNIVERSITY BANDS

**T**HE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI is located in Hattiesburg, the Hub city of South Mississippi, with a two-county metropolitan population of over 100,000. The city provides the safety and friendliness of a small town as well as the diversity and excitement of a larger city. Approximately 16,000 students from all fifty states as well as 47 countries bring a variety of interests and ideas to USM. These students complete academic coursework in over 160 graduate and undergraduate programs. USM's teaching and research facilities are set among beautiful oak trees near a magnificent rose garden. The columned buildings comprising the University's original architecture blend comfortably with modern structures such as the Polymer Science Research Center and the Chain Technology Building. Students find that the campus provides a delightful and exciting environment for study, rehearsal, and performing.

The University of Southern Mississippi's nationally recognized School of Music is the largest in the state of Mississippi with over forty five full-time faculty members with expertise in all fields of music including performance, education, composition, history, jazz, church music and music industry. Performance opportunities abound at USM. Large performing ensembles include three concert bands, the 300-member "Pride of Mississippi" Marching Band, two jazz bands, five choirs and the Symphony Orchestra; additional outlets include Opera Theatre, Pro Musica, vocal and instrumental jazz ensembles, handbell choir, and chamber ensembles in all instrumental categories. The School of Music hosts numerous conferences and workshops including the Southern Instrumental Conductors Conference, now in its 52nd year. In a typical year, distinguished visiting professors, guest artists, and visiting composers are invited to USM to provide master classes and performances and to fulfill short-term residences. The USM School of Music will present over 350 performances regionally, nationally and internationally this year.

The Wind Ensemble, conducted by Dr. Thomas V. Fraschillo, is one of the premiere performing ensemble of the University. The organization presents concerts spanning a wide variety of styles from traditional to avant garde. Recent performances have included four Mississippi Bandmasters Association Conventions, Southern Instrumental Conductor's Conferences, two regional College Band Director's National Association Conventions, two national College Band Director's National Association Conventions including the "Golden Anniversary" Convention held in Kansas City in 1991, and two Annual National Conventions of the American Bandmasters Association, the last of which was hosted by the ensemble. Guest soloists with the ensemble have included such notable artist performers as Roger Bobo, James Thatcher, Brian Bowman, Stanley Drucker, Christian Lindberg, Allen Vizzutti, Joseph Alessi, and Steven Mead. The Wind Ensemble continues to set a standard among the finest groups of its type in the United States.

### THOMAS VINCENT FRASCHILLO PROFESSOR OF MUSIC/ DIRECTOR OF BANDS

**T**HOMAS V. FRASCHILLO has served as catalyst and mentor for the music profession in the area of Wind Music for 37 years. His influence on extremely high standards of performance has been felt by virtually every wind music organization in the Southeast and his performances serve as models throughout the world whether in the professional or academic arena. Through his recent recordings, *The Music of Luigi Zaninelli and L'Orchestra di fiati-University of Southern Mississippi Wind Ensemble* (recorded in Italy with the USM Wind Ensemble), and his publishing, conducting, and lecturing in the United States, Europe, and Australia he is considered an international musician/scholar. His most recent publications, a translation from the original Italian of Alessandro Vessella's *Studi di strumentazione (Instrumentation Studies)* published by BMG Ricordi, Milan, and distributed in the United States by Shawnee Press, and *La Tecnica dell'orchestra contemporanea (The Technique of Contemporary Orchestration)*, by Alessandro Casella and Vittorio Mortari, published by BMG Ricordi and distributed in

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the United States by Hal Leonard Publications, have put his name in music libraries of the entire English speaking world. The translation of the Casella/Mortari makes available an English version of probably the most significant music publication on writing for orchestra in Europe after the Second World War. Further Dr. Fraschillo serves as a frequent conductor and lecturer in Italy as an American scholar. It should be noted that he lectures in Italy in the Italian language. His most recent conducting in Italy has been with La banda dell'esercito/The Italian Army Band from Rome. One of his most significant engagements with them occurred in the summer of 2002 and signaled a very important milestone for the Italian Army in that Dr. Fraschillo was the first American born conductor to have been invited to appear in a public performance by what is considered Italy's most prestigious military concert band. The concert with Dr. Fraschillo conducting was the opening concert of the International Festival in Spoleto, "The Festival of Two Worlds, Festival dei due mondi." His appearance was enormously significant for Conductors of Bands in that the opening performance featured such international artists as Gian Carlo Menotti, the renowned composer who organized and began the event some 30 years ago, the Orchestra and Giuseppe Verdi Chorus of Milan with Ricardo Chailly conducting, and the famous Italian actress, Claudia Cardinale whose work was being displayed in a film retrospective.

In 2005, the Melbourne, Australia, Summer Youth Music Program invited Dr. Fraschillo to be their guest conductor for a week long session, and in 2006 he will return to be guest lecturer for the Australian Band and Orchestra Directors Association followed by another week of guest conducting with the Melbourne group. His performance in the Melbourne Town Hall received significant acclaim by critics of the Australian press, something normally reserved for strictly professional performances.

Dr. Fraschillo has devoted a significant amount of his career to the education of young people in both Mississippi's urban and rural environments. For example his ten-year tenure at Meridian High School was highlighted by an invitation to perform at the Midwest Clinic in Chicago, the nation's oldest and most prestigious music event for wind and string educators. The invitation was only the second to have ever been given to a band from Mississippi until now. In December, 2001, a former USM student of Dr. Fraschillo, Mohamad Schuman of Stone County High School, was the third conductor to take a group from Mississippi to perform for this international audience. Further Dr. Fraschillo's students have broken barriers not before reached, for he taught and helped place the first two African-American female students from Meridian, Vanessa Cox and Melanie Thomas, in the Mississippi All-State Band. Not only were they the first minority female members, but they were the first African-American young women to be in the very highest positions in the group.

Dr. Fraschillo has attained a level of international leadership that has significantly raised the awareness of bands by professional musicians from throughout the USA, Europe, Asia, and Canada in that he has served as President of the world's largest organization for band directors, the National Band Association, and now serves as its Executive Secretary/Treasurer. As president elect of the prestigious American Bandmasters Association, Dr. Fraschillo follows in this office a long line of distinguished conductors. Further he serves as secretary and member of the Board of Directors of the Chicago based Sudler Foundation, a foundation that enhances the music education and experiences of young people through the John Philip Sousa Honor Bands and various competitions for young conductors, e.g., the Sir Georg Solti International Young Conductors Competition in honor of the late Sir Georg Solti, conductor of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra.

Under his leadership the University of Southern Mississippi's Wind Ensemble has been featured on frequent public radio broadcasts in Mississippi, on Performance Today, a program of PRI (Public Radio International), and has performed for many regional and national conventions including two of the American Bandmasters Association and three of the College Band Director's National Association. In 1998, he brought the national convention of the American Bandmasters Association to the Mississippi Gulf Coast for its annual meeting. As a result of all of the above he is constantly in demand as a conductor and lecturer throughout the world and attracts a steady stream of graduate students to USM to study in its Doctor of Musical Arts in Conducting degree program.

University of Southern Mississippi  
*presents*

**THE WIND ENSEMBLE**  
**THOMAS V. FRASCHILLO, CONDUCTOR**

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**1 FANFARE**

*TROMBONE CHOIR*

**2 THE FREE LANCE MARCH**

JOHN PHILIP SOUSA

**3 - 5 SINFONIETTA FOR CONCERT BAND**

INGOLF DAHL

I. INTRODUCTION AND RONDO

II. PASTORAL NOCTURNE

III. DANCE VARIATIONS

*CARSON VERMILLION, GUEST CONDUCTOR*

**6 IRISH TUNE FROM COUNTY DERRY**

PERCY GRAINGER

**7 SHEPHERD'S HEY**

PERCY GRAINGER

COMPACT  
**disc**  
DIGITAL AUDIO

BENNETT AUDITORIUM  
DECEMBER 2, 2004

**VIKI  
VESTIGE**

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