



*Presents*

JSU Percussion Ensemble  
and  
Steel Band

Thomas McCutchen, Director

Tuesday, November 6, 2012 ♦ 7:30 p.m.  
Performance Center ♦ Mason Hall

PERSONNEL

Percussion Ensemble

Evan Romack  
Reuben Rodriguez  
Oliver Dupree  
Luke Shreve  
Katy Lackey  
Alex Pittman  
Kramer Smith  
AJ Adair  
Taylor McCullough  
Ben Williams  
AJ Chandler  
Matt Scoggins  
Kyle Williams  
Jon Hollingsworth  
Colin Brewer

Steel Band

Katy Lackey, tenor  
Aaron Bryant, tenor  
Evan Romack, double tenors  
Taylor Bowen, double seconds  
Alex Pittman, double seconds  
Jason Cole, guitar pans  
Kramer Smith, bass pans  
Taylor Hudock, bass pans  
Nick Staff, bass  
Danny Moore, drum set

PROGRAM

*Percussion Ensemble*

Escape Velocity (2008)	Dave Hall (b. 1983)
Away Without Leave	Bob Becker
The Army 2/4 (anonymous, arr. Bob Becker)	
Duke's Lullaby (Steve Gadd, arr. Bob Becker)	
Crazy Army (Ed Lemley, arr. Bob Becker)	
I Ching	Dwayne Rice

*Steel Band*

Pyxis	C.J. Menge
Under The Mango Tree	Tony McCutchen
Spin Cycle	Brad Shores
Down With It	Matt Ehlers
Trini Yellowtail	Adam Mason

## PROGRAM NOTES

*Escape Velocity* was composed in the Spring of 2008. The quartet features three keyboards and a djembe part, although each player plays several other percussion instruments, often simultaneously with their primary part. The piece is influenced by the music of Béla Bartók as well as “drum ‘n’ bass” artists like Venetian Snares and Aphex Twin.

*Away Without Leave* is a drum medley dedicated to Steve Gadd, a friend and inspiration since we were in music school together in the 1960s. The centerpiece is Steve’s “lullaby” for his son Duke, which I learned while working with him on a show for the Tokyo Music Joy festival in 1988. *Duke’s Lullaby* alternates between a traditional samba rhythm (here played on melodic concert toms and timbales rather than drum kit) and a generic military-style drum beating with a highly syncopated bass drum accompaniment.

*The Army 2/4* is an old and famous marching cadence. Traditionally used for military parading, it is also performed by many jazz drummers, including Elvin Jones. A sharply syncopated version on this drum beating, called *Crazy Army*, was written by the late Connecticut drummer Ed Lemley. This piece is still performed by Army drum corps and has been used often by Steve Gadd for songs that require a military/samba groove.

(notes by the composer)

### **I Ching: The Book of Changes**

Dwayne Rice

The I Ching (Yee King), or Book of Changes, is an ancient Chinese book of wisdom derived from the polar concepts of Yang (the light or creative) and Yin (the dark or receptive), represented by a solid line and a broken line, respectively. These lines are then stacked into groups of three, creating eight different trigrams (a set of three lines), and given an image of something that exists between Heaven and Earth. The trigrams are then stacked onto

each other in combinations of two, resulting in 64 Hexagrams (a set of six lines), each representing a degree of change that can happen in our lives. Each degree of change is given a name, an image, an explanation, and a way to confront the change. The book is often labeled as mysticism, but is actually very far from it. It is a practical way to approach life. Both Taoism and Confucianism, the predominant schools of thought in China, have their roots in its study.

The inspiration for the piece came from the images of the eight trigrams, which are presented in the following order: Earth, Mountain, Water, Wind, Thunder, Fire, Lake and Heaven. The resulting piece is a set of variations on a theme, each basically an "impression" of the trigram's image and meaning.

**Earth** - The Receptive

**Water** - The Abysmal

**Thunder** - The Arousing

**Lake** - The Joyous

**Mountain** - Keeping Still

**Wind** - The Gentle

**Fire** - The Clinging

**Heaven** - The Creative

However, the connections between the piece and the actual I Ching run much deeper than just the surface images of the trigrams. They not only dictate both the form and the feel of each musical section, but their consecutive connections into hexagrams, and those hexagram's degrees of change, give the piece its direction and momentum. It is truly a journey through all things between Heaven and Earth.

**Dwayne Rice** (b. 1974) is a freelance composer living in New York City. He has written many works for marching band, percussion ensemble, and various solo instruments. He received a Masters Degree from the University of North Texas in percussion performance and composition and was a percussion instructor and band director in the DFW area for ten years. Most of his work is available for free download from his website, including the Septet. Please visit [www.dwaynerice.com](http://www.dwaynerice.com) for more information.