



# SCHOOL OF MUSIC

## TEXAS TECH

J.T. & Margaret Talkington College of Visual & Performing Arts

# TECH FOLK ORCHESTRA

Monday, October 20th, 2025 | 8:00 pm | Hemmle Recital Hall

## “THE BLADERUNNER 2030 CYBER-SOLAR PUNK BAND”

### About this Program

Listening tunes and songs from Blowzabella, Kathryn Tickell, Faustus, and The Band; also Brittany, France, and Bassanda, with social dances. Featuring as special guests the Caprock English Bagpipe Consort, the design and costume assistance of TCVPA Theatre & Dance students, the choreography of Kris Olson, and the aerial artistry of Abigail Wright.

### The Tech Folk Orchestra

Dr Christopher Smith, director; Steffi Alvarado (trombone); Elisia Arrieta (dance, voice, flute); Corban Beauchamp (saxophone [baritone]); Dexter Cedano (dance, voice); Peyton Culp (dance, voice); Ethan Do (clarinet); Roger Dominguez (saxophone [soprano; section leader]; Hailey Engebretson (flute); Cam Faught (fiddle); Tara Findley (dance, voice); Anthony Flores (drums, percussion); James Fludd (saxophone [tenor]); Cassidy Forehand (fiddle [section leader]); Edith Frank (flute [co-section leader]); Brendan Funk (trumpet); CJ Goodyear (fiddle); Libby Holman (viola); Joseph Hudak (dance, voice); Reagan Alexandria Hunter (horn); Django Jones (mandolin, mandola); EB Leighton (dance, voice, embedded Bassandan); Emma Mankowski (fiddle); Raven Matthews (clarinet); Porter McClellan (saxophone [alto]); Robert McEly (tuba); Connor Oliver (horn); Rylan Partin (bass guitar); Ethan Peacock (cello, mountain dulcimer); Rafi Quilpas (horn); Ethan Reaves (trombone); Allison Sessom (flute [co-section leader]); Jared Sherman (euphonium); Steve Stallings (guitar [section leader]); Kaity Swecker (dance, voice [dance captain]); Erick Valle (fiddle); Michelle Waida (horn); Thea Willner (mandolin); Malik Winston (fiddle)

website: [www.eternalstalwartsorchestra.org](http://www.eternalstalwartsorchestra.org)

### With special guests Robin Harrell & Jason Mullen

### The Caprock English Bagpipe Consort

Roger Landes (director), Justin Glosson, Jordan Langehennig,  
Patrick McLaurin

With thanks to our Bassandan sister Kris Olson, and to the students of Abby Wright and Divya Jarnadhan: Marta Rodriguez, Aiden Hemphill, Kyber Zemlock



About Bassanda and the Eternal Stalwarts Orchestra: Symphonic Folk from a Lost World. Major inspiration for the Eternal Stalwarts Orchestra, the alter ego of the Tech Folk Orchestra, comes from the fictional country of “Bassanda”; a creation of VMC partners Chipper Thompson ([chipperthompson.com](http://chipperthompson.com)) and Roger Landes ([rogerlandes.com](http://rogerlandes.com)). We imagined the fictional “Eternal Stalwarts

Orchestra”; in which, as part of an “alternate-history” frame, it’s alleged that a Soviet satellite’s official state folkloric ensemble (the “Bassanda National Radio Orchestra”) mutates, after the fall of Communism, into a free-lance ensemble engaged in a Never-Ending Tour. Performing “Symphonic Folk from a Lost World,” the BNRO/ESO has thus been heard in many permutations, including the “Classic 1952 Band”; the “1962 ‘Beatnik’ Band”; the “1965 Newport Folk Festival Band”; the “1885 Victorian ‘Steampunk’ Band”; the post-apocalyptic “Great Southwestern ‘Sand Pirates’ Band”; the “1912 New Orleans Creole ‘Voodoo’ Band”; the “1928 ‘Carnivale Incognito’ Band”; the “1934 Intergalactic Pandemic Popular Front Band”; the “1936 International Brigade Libertarias Band,” the “1942 ‘Casablanca’ Band,” the “1948 Berlin Airlift Band,” the 1950 “Babylon Berlin Ragamuffin Band”—and, now, the “Bladerunner 2030 Cyber-Solar Punk Band.”

For those interested in all things Bassanda: related correspondence, personal biographies, timelines, galleries & archival commentary can be found at <http://www.eternalstalwartsorchestra.org>; likewise search Facebook for “Eternal Stalwarts Orchestra.”

### **Can I participate?**

Yes! If you are interested to participate in one of the VMC’s community-facing ensembles or partners (Historical Performance Ensemble, Balkan Ensemble, Eternal Stalwarts, and/or Caprock English Bagpipe Consort), feel free to contact their respective directors. Community members are welcome! Auditions typically occur in the first weeks of each academic semester.

### **Coming Sunday Dec 7 2-4pm Maedgen Theater**

The VMC Seasonal Celebration: SHAKESPEARE AT THE SOLSTICE

**VMC Staff: Christopher J. Smith, Roger Landes, Angela Mariani**

**Follow us on Social Media at “vernacularmusiccenter”**

#notyourclassicalorchestra

### **Radio Broadcast & Television Recording**

We are recording live today, and we appreciate your participation and your patience! However, because of this, we ask you to power-down (e.g., completely shut-off) electronic devices including cell phones, and to avoid any extraneous noise during the performance. Please refrain from use of flash photography during this concert. Such use represents a safety hazard for performers.

### **The Vernacular Music Center at the TTU School of Music**

The mission of the Vernacular Music Center is to provide a hub for in-depth and comparative research, study, teaching and advocacy on behalf of the world’s vernacular musics and dance—their construction, history, and role in defining cultural life in human communities—in all cultures and historical periods. As a research Center officially recognized by the TTU Office of the Vice President for Research & Innovation, the VMC is dedicated to the study of the process by which music is taught and passed on within a community, as well as assisting in the ongoing cultivation of arts on the South Plains.

### **Become a Friend of the VMC!**

Visit us at [vernacularmusiccenter.org](http://vernacularmusiccenter.org) for more information!

Donations: <http://www.give2Tech.com/>