

Pittsburg State University
Department of Music

presents



The Symphonic Band
Warren D. Olfert, Conductor

Thursday, April 10, 1997
First United Methodist Church
7:30 PM

Program

Morning, Noon and Night in Vienna (1896/1922) Franz Von Suppé/ Arr. Fillmore

Country Gardens (1919/1953) Percy Grainger

Suite Française (1993) Guy Woolfenden
I. Pastorale
II. Valse

Chamber Winds

Széki Muszika (1951)

Karen Dannessa, Clarinet Soloist

László Gulyás

Intermission

Ghost Dance (1996) Quincy Hilliard
II. Dance of the Ghosts
III. The Massacre

A Tribute to Rudy Wiedoeft (1918) Arr. Gunther Schuller
II. Saxarella
III. Saxophobia

Russell Jones, Alto Saxophone Soloist

Celtic Hymns and Dances (1995) Eric Ewazen

Marsch (1992) Marcel Wengler

Symphonic Band Personnel

Flute

Justin Writer*
Lisa R. Dunn
Tobey Aitken
Sara R. Cartright
Mary Goedeke
Jamie Wolf

Oboe

Kelsey McDaniel*
Kara Herr

Clarinet

Linda Lunow*
Jennifer Schultz
Elizabeth Homesley
Shelby Huddleston
Erin McGuire
Arinya Janes
Regan Chamberland
Alicia Bauer
Melissa Warner
Melisa Harley

Bass Clarinet

Joni Gerster
Brian Sharp

Contra-Alto Clarinet

Tabitha Myers

Alto Saxophone

Angela Sisk*
Michael Sumaya

Tenor Saxophone

Don Stephens
Lindsay Green
Jason Matthews

Baritone Saxophone

Hyriam Fleming
Christopher Mallory

Bassoon

Jason S. Dunn*
Monica Oliver

Trumpet

Brad Harrison*
Michael Oglesby
Tim Sauerwein
Kevin Pommier
Jim Williams
Dale May
Michael Best
April Jones

Horn

Tom Mangus *
Christina Connell
Bryce Tharp

Trombone

M.C. Whittier*
Travis Tabares
Jim O'Shields
Josh D. Dempster
Matt Auxter

Euphonium

Joel Dodd*
Rebecca Slater

Tuba

Ryan A. Elliott*
Keith Covey
Keith Wondra

Percussion

David Johnston*
Brian Hargrave*
Sal Bywaters
Glenda Chaplin
Corey Fugitt
Aric Kirk
Matt Paige

Keyboard

Daphne Gong

* = Section
Leader/Principal

Program Notes

During the time Franz Von Suppé composed much of his music it seemed as if music was heard in Vienna, as it still is, "morning, noon, and night." Suppé's works were first performed in America as concert "curtain raisers" by the symphony orchestras. However, his overtures were so suitable for bands that they soon became the park-band favorites and are still performed by many professional and school bands. **Morning, Noon and Night in Vienna** was written by Henry Fillmore for one of the famous Central Park concerts by the Goldman Band.

At the close of a Liberty Loan Concert (1918), Percy Grainger performed an improvisation a Morris Dance tunes. The improvisation proved to be so popular that Grainger published it for piano, making **Country Gardens** the most popular work Schirmer, Schott and their affiliated houses combined had ever published. In 1953, Grainger re-scored a completely new version of **Country Gardens** for wind band. It is that version (Grainger's favorite) that is presented tonight.

Guy Woolfenden is an established composer in England with more than 150 theatre scores for the Royal Shakespeare Company and several wind band works among his credits. His **Suite Française** is written for woodwind octet (2 flutes, 2 oboes, 2 clarinets, 2 bassoons) and is characteristic of the quality of writing of this wonderful composer.

Not much is known about **László Gulyás** other than his birth in 1928 in Hungary. **Széki Muszika** (or Music from Szék) is a set of gypsy songs that are set for clarinet and band accompaniment. They range from very slow dances to the furious tarantella that concludes the work. The solo clarinet frequently is doubled by other woodwinds, creating some interesting ensemble challenges for the performers.

Ghost Dance is a new work by **Quincy Hilliard** memorialized the massacre of Sioux Indians at Wounded Knee. On December 29, 1890, nearly four hundred men, women, and children were slaughtered in one of the more tragic events in American history. The work graphically depicts the events leading up to the massacre.

Rudy Wiedoeft stands as one of the significant contributors to the development of saxophone playing. His acrobatic, complex solos provide a significant challenge for the most accomplished performer. Gunther Schuller of the New England Conservatory of Music has transcribed three of Wiedoeft's most famous solos for alto saxophone and small ensemble. Two of them, the lilting **Saxarella**, and the wild and furious **Saxophobia** (justly named!) are performed tonight.

Eric Ewazen is a professor of composition at the Julliard School of Music and an exciting new compositional voice. **Celtic Hymns and Dances** represents his first work for band. The piece is a rich depiction of the hymns, chants and dances that are typical of the Celtic tradition. The work draws its inspiration from Medieval and Renaissance music and, though original in terms of melodic and thematic content, fully call to mind the music of ancient times.

Marcel Wengler's Marsch is a parody of the European march tradition and the town band that is so prevalent in that arena. The work intentionally employs mistakes and the type of ensemble problems one would expect from a group of musicians who meet occasionally and perform for the joy of playing but not necessarily the professionalism. Of course, like all town band concerts, somehow everything seems to work out all right at the end!

Dr. Karen Dannessa, associate professor of woodwinds at Pittsburg State University since 1989, received her degrees from Youngstown State University, Michigan State University, and Florida State University. Recent performances include solo performances at International Clarinet Association ClarinetFest in Tempe, Arizona, the Montana-Idaho Clarinet Festival, and the University of Oklahoma Clarinet Symposium. Dr. Dannessa is a member of the Springfield (Missouri) Symphony and the Tallahassee Reed Trio. Dr. Dannessa has performed with the Springfield Symphony Orchestra and the Tallahassee Symphony, the Youngstown Symphony and Chamber Orchestra and the American Wind Symphony Orchestra. She has taught at West Chester State University and Florida State University as well as in the public schools in Michigan and Florida.

Dr. Russell Jones received degrees from Duke University and Indiana University. He taught band, chorus, and general music in the North Carolina public schools prior to his graduate work and has been at Pittsburg State University since receiving his doctorate. His duties at Pittsburg State include teaching Instrumental Music Education, bassoon, Woodwind Techniques, and some graduate courses. In addition to bassoon, he continues to be an active performer on clarinet, saxophone, oboe and English horn. He recently performed the Mozart Bassoon Concerto, K.191, with the SEK Symphony.

Ensembles at PSU: Coming Events

Thursday, April 24	7:30 PM	McCray Recital Hall	PSU Jazz Ensemble
Sunday, April 27	3:00 PM	McCray Recital Hall	PSU Choral Concert
Sunday, May 4	3:00 PM	Memorial Auditorium	SEK Symphony
Thursday, May 8	7:30 PM	Memorial Auditorium	Four State Band Festival