

California State University, Long Beach
Department of Music

presents

SYMPHONIC BAND

Leo Potts, Conductor

Tuesday, December 6, 1994

Gerald R. Daniel Recital Hall

8:00 P.M.

PROGRAM

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| Athletic Festival March Op. 69, No.1 | Serge Prokofieff |
| Chester Overture for Band | William Schuman |
| "Ye Banks And Braes O' Bonnie Doon" | Percy A. Grainger |
| Symphony No. 1 for Winds and Percussion In Memoriam, Dresden, Germany, 1945 | Daniel J. Bukvich |
| I. Prologue | |
| II. Seeds in the Wind | |
| III. Ave Maria | |
| IV. Fire-Storm | |

INTERMISSION

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| Salvation Is Created | Tschesnokoff <i>arr. B.H. Houseknecht</i> |
| Pageant | Vincent Persichetti |
| Sang! | Dana Wilson |

Athletic Festival March by **Serge Prokofieff** was written in 1935-37 and was the first and most popular march from the Four Marches, Op. 69, originally written for brass band. This work was originally titled March for the Spartakiad and was written for the Russian athletic festival, the Spartakiad, which was inspired by the highly disciplined warriors of ancient Sparta. The **Athletic Festival March** is one of only six marches Prokofieff wrote for the wind band. The arrangement you will hear tonight was arranged and edited for American Band by Richard F. Goldman.

Chester: Overture for Band by **William Schuman** arose from an American Revolutionary tune by William Billings. The Billings' Chester was so popular during the Revolutionary War that it was sung throughout the colonies and played by the Continental Army fifers on the march. The composer explains this band work "does not constitute a 'fantasy' on themes of Billings, nor 'variations' on his themes, but rather a fusion of styles and musical language."

William Schuman was born in New York City in 1910 and attended Columbia University. He was also the President of the Julliard School of Music, President of the Lincoln Center for Performing Arts(1962), and won a Pulitzer Prize in 1943 for a cantata he composed.

"Ye Banks And Braes O' Bonnie Doon" by **Percy A. Grainger** is one of Grainger's most popular compositions for wind band. The piece is based on the Scottish folk song of the same name. The melody is introduced by the oboe and cornet and is heard from many sections of the band during the course of the work.

Percy Grainger was born in Australia in 1882 and became a United States citizen in 1919. In the early 1930's, he was head of the music department at New York University. Several of his compositions and band arrangements were premiered by the Goldman Band and he frequently appeared as guest conductor or piano soloist.

Symphony No. 1 by **Daniel Bukvich** is in memoriam of Dresden, Germany, 1945. On the night of February 13, 1945, Allied forces fire-bombed the undefended German city of Dresden. Swollen by the flow of refugees fleeing the advancing Russian army, the "Fire Storm" killed approximately 150,000 people. The Prologue establishes the mood of impending disaster and presents the thematic material upon which the rest of the piece is based. Seeds In the Wind refers to the method of "seeding" the bomb target with jellied gasoline and incendiaries; and

portrays the fury of the bombing attack. *Ave Maria* reflects upon the religious and artistic heritage of Dresden and becomes a prayer for the victims of the attack. In the last movement, the *Fire Storm* is recreated. It is the resolution of the previous three movements.

Salvation Is Created by Tschesnokoff is both an elegant statement of spirituality and a fine example of choral literature from the Russian Orthodox Church. Bruce Houseknecht, former director of instrumental music in the Joliet school system in Illinois, has arranged the chorale for wind band. **Salvation Is Created** remains one of the world's most beautiful melodic statements of faith.

Pageant by Vincent Persichetti was commissioned by the American Bandmasters' Association and was first performed at their convention in March 1953 in Miami, Florida by the University of Miami band. The New York premiere was in June 1953 with the Goldman Band playing. **Pageant** is composed of two contrasting sections. The piece opens with a slow tempo motive in the French Horn; the motive is used in both sections of the piece. The lively parade-like section is introduced by the Snare Drum. In the final portion, the two principal themes are developed simultaneously to an exiting climax.

Vincent Persichetti was born in 1915 in Philadelphia and received his masters and doctorate degrees from the Philadelphia Conservatory of Music. He served as faculty at the Julliard School of Music and as head of the composition department at the Philadelphia Conservatory of Music.

Sang! by Dana Wilson was commissioned by and dedicated to the Murchison Middle School Band in Austin, Texas. **Sang!** is a high-energy piece constructed of repeated phrases that appear in various combinations throughout the piece. The piece utilizes sung phrases to help teach performers about rhythms by first hearing the rhythm, then singing the rhythm, and finally seeing the rhythm notation on the page. By doing so, the musicians can learn how these rhythms look and be able to play them without being overwhelmed by the visual complexity. Dana Wilson received his doctorate from the Eastman School of Music and is associate professor of composition at the Ithaca College School of Music in Ithaca, New York.

Symphonic Band Personnel

Piccolo

Geselle Erneta*

Flutes

Joanne Siu*

Kerri Gause

Sujin Lee

Cynthia Perez

Jonathan Pusey

Bassoon

William Hutcheson*

Clarinets

Cynthia Beanez*

Natasha Chapman

Paul Navidad

Bronwyn Gisborne

Lilcalynette Howard

Elenor Doctora

Saxophones

John Lindeman*

Nathan Jensen

Baritone Saxophone

Nigel Joyner

French Horns

Liz Royce*

Cheryl Cowen

Mark Ghiassi

Brian Shetland

Trumpets

Jennifer Moore*

Lon Aragabright

Scott Arakawa

Mike Battaglia

Gary Gopar

Trombones

Jeannine Rickles*

Amy Bowers

Antonio Reyna

Bass Trombones

Patrick Zaw*

Charles Drinkworth

Euphonium

Ron Mallory*

Tuba

Brian Foley*

Percussion

Victor Wheeler*

Steve Foster

Dustin Haner

Ryan Kelly

Michael Miley

Ike Nakamura

Carlos Solorzano

* denotes section leader

College of the Arts
Wade Hobgood, Dean

Department of Music
Dr. Donald Para, Chairman

Wind and Percussion Performance Faculty
John A. Carnahan, Director of Bands
Leo Potts, Symphonic Band Director

Coordinators
Dr. John Barcellona, Woodwinds
Dr. Richard Birkemeier, Brass
Dr. Michael Carney, Percussion

Artist Faculty

John Barcellona, Flute
Greg Donovetsky, Oboe
Leo Potts, Saxophone
Charley Davis, Trumpet
Dave Evans, Trumpet
Donald Green, Trumpet
Joan LaRue, Trumpet
Michael Carney, Percussion
Gregory Goodall, Percussion

Gary Bovyer, Clarinet
David Muller, Bassoon
Pheobe Ray, Bassoon
Joe Meyer, French Horn
Noreen Harris, Trombone
Roy Main, Trombone
Jeff Reynolds, Trombone
Alan Baer, Tuba

Leo Potts has built an international reputation for his creative and sensitive interpretations of music scores ranging from classical to popular music. Involved in teaching, recording, and performing, he is Professor of Saxophone here at California State University, Long Beach, a founding member of the West Coast Saxophone Quartet, a Yamaha Performing Artist and Clinician, and the conductor of the C.S.U.L.B. Symphonic Band. Mr. Potts has received a degree in Music from C.S.U.L.B., studied under Marcel Mule and Daniel Deffayet at the National Conservatory of Music in Paris, and studied under Phil Sobel, a former NBC staff musician who is lauded for his creative concepts in saxophone teaching. Mr. Potts has just recorded a CD for Cambria Master Recording entitled Two Sides, which will be released in early 1995.