

4-23-2005

Concert: Ithaca College Symphonic Band Farewell Concert

Ithaca College Symphonic Band

Henry Neubert

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ITHACA COLLEGE

SCHOOL OF MUSIC

ITHACA COLLEGE SYMPHONIC BAND
Henry G. Neubert, conductor

Farewell Concert

Ford Hall
Saturday, April 23, 2005
8:15 p.m.

ITHACA

PROGRAM

Symphonic Movement (1964)

Vaclav Nelhybel
(1919-1996)

From A Dark Millenium (1981)

Joseph Schwantner
(b. 1943)

INTERMISSION

Whatsoever Things... (1996)

Mark Camphouse
(b. 1954)

Piece of Mind (1988)

Dana Wilson
(b. 1946)

- I. *Thinking*
- II. *Remembering*
- III. *Feeling*
- IV. *Being*

Comments by Arthur Ostrander, Dean

A Neubert Portrait

Aaron Copland
(1900-1990)

—apologies to both Lincoln and Copland. . .

Mark Fonder and Steve Peterson
co-narrators/conductors

March of the Steelmen (1937)

Charles Belsterling
(1874-1959)
Scored by Harry Alford

Program Notes

Thank you for joining me for my last concert at Ithaca College. After 33 years here I have decided to step aside. This will be an emotional evening for me. Therefore I will find it impossible to speak to you from the stage. Please accept my apology. I would, however, like to speak about the significance of the works I have programmed tonight.

Each of the works on tonight's concert (except the march) were written during my adult life. Each is an important work in the windband repertoire. Several of the works have a Northwestern University connection and one has a strong Ithaca College connection.

Symphonic Movement, written by Vaclav Nelhybel, is dedicated to John P. Paynter and the Northwestern University Symphonic Band. Mr. Paynter was my conducting teacher, esteemed and feared mentor, and, later, my good friend. During my undergraduate and graduate days at Northwestern I had the distinct pleasure and honor of working on a daily basis with Mr. Paynter for five years. He was a major influence in my life. I played in the premiere performance of **Symphonic Movement** while it was still in manuscript. I have performed it many times at Ithaca College and it remains one of my favorite works in the windband repertoire.

From A Dark Millenium is one of Joseph Schwantner's most popular works. It is an intriguing composition which calls for the band members to sing and to whistle. The amplified piano and celeste are very important voices. The percussion section is featured throughout, playing a variety of drums and keyboards and bowing the bars of the vibraphone. Joseph Schwantner and I received our Masters degrees from Northwestern University on the same day in 1966.

John P. Paynter died in early 1996, shortly after realizing his dream of accompanying the Northwestern University Football Team and Wildcat Marching Band (under the direction of my close friend and Ithaca College Director of Bands Dr. Stephen Peterson (who I met for the first time during the game)) to the Rose Bowl. I was in attendance at Pasadena and spent a good part of the football game watching Mr. Paynter as he stood on the sidelines. The look on Mr. Paynter's face will always stay with me.

After Mr. Paynter's death the Revelli Foundation established the "Paynter Project". The first commission in that series was **Whatsoever Things...** written by Northwestern graduate and prolific

composer Mark Camphouse. The common thematic thread for the composition is the employment of the Northwestern University Alma Mater, the famous "St. Anthony Chorale", quoted by Franz Joseph Haydn in one of his wind divertimenti and Brahms in his "Variations on a Theme by Haydn". If you are a true Northwestern football fan (I, for one, almost never miss a game) you will hear the fight song "Go U Northwestern" played by the chimes under the saxophone statement of the alma mater very near the end of the piece.

Mark Camphouse writes:

"John Paynter had a unique ability to provide virtually all facets of our beloved profession with visionary leadership, steeped in the traditions of personal, educational, and artistic integrity. If there were more personal role models such as John Paynter, I am quite certain we would live in a world and work in a profession having greater truth, honesty and justice. If we had more musical role models such as John Paynter, I am equally certain we would live in a world and work in a profession having greater purity and loveliness...indeed more worthy of good report, great virtue and high praise. We must always think on these things."

Dana Wilson is a member of the Ithaca College Faculty. He is a brilliant person and a brilliant composer. I am proud to list him among my friends. I have tried to play one of his works each year with the Symphonic Band. Tonight marks the second time I am programming his award-winning **Piece of Mind**. I will include Dr. Wilson's program notes here.

Piece of Mind is a musical pun on an old expression. It is a representation of the workings of the human mind. The first movement, *Thinking*, begins with a very simple four-note idea which grows seemingly of its own inertia - as thinking about something often does - while sometimes being joined or overwhelmed by other, related ideas.

Remembering, the second movement, is structured in a manner similar to the way memory serves most of us - not as complete, logical thought, but as abrupt flashes of images or dialogue. In this case, the flashes provide a view of the original four-note idea through various musical styles vividly entrenched in the composer's own memory and hopefully that of much of the audience.

The third movement, *Feeling*, explores various states throughout the emotional spectrum, and the final movement, *Being*, addresses a mental state that is rarely considered in our culture. Non-Western - particularly East Indian - musical styles are called upon to shape the four-note idea so as to conjure up and celebrate this marvelous attribute (this piece, this peace...) of mind.

Piece of Mind won the Sousa Foundation's 1988 Sudler International Wind Band Composition Competition and the 1988 ABA/Ostwald Prize. The work was premiered in New York City and later recorded for Mark Records by the Ithaca College Wind Ensemble, Rodney Winther conductor, to whom it is dedicated.

Each year at Northwestern University the finale of the final halftime show of the last home football game features the **March of the Steelmens**. In my five years marching at Northwestern I looked forward to the end of the marching season but also knew I would miss those late autumn afternoons busting my chops on a cold parking lot. I have tried to bust my chops (and sometimes those of the 2000 members of the Symphonic Band!) during my 33 years at Ithaca. I will miss these kids tremendously. I left Northwestern and immediately married Gail. That was almost 39 years ago. Now I look forward to spending the rest of my life with her as we watch Taylor and Aubryn grow, attend the games which Hank and Tom coach, and enjoy the company of the best two daughters-in-law ever, Amanda and Jessica. God Bless you and thank you for being with me tonight.

Henry G. Neubert

ITHACA COLLEGE SYMPHONIC BAND

Henry Neubert, conductor

Heidi J. Miller, graduate conductor

Piccolo

Nikki Barnum

Flute

Melissa Wertheimer

Becca Frost

Emily James

Whitney Kaiser

Jennifer Rodgers

Darren Simonson

Esther Paek

Oboe

Luke Conklin

Corinne Landrey

Margaret Westreich

English Horn

Margaret Westreich

Corinne Landrey

E♭ Clarinet

Anne Woodard

B♭ Clarinet

Kelly Bochynski

Jonathan Smith

Anne Woodard

Jessie Shaw

Corinne Waite

Matthew Gibson

Miranda Selover

Laura Caruthers

Allegra Smith

Spencer Blumenfeld

Kimberly Fleming

Bass Clarinet

Miranda Selover

Matthew Gibson

Bassoon

Jeff Ward

Kristen Schussler

PJ Coward

Contrabassoon

PJ Coward

Soprano Saxophone

Adam York

Alto Saxophone

Adam York

Rob Flack

Andrew Lawrence

Kevin Marshall

Shannon Burns

Tenor Saxophone

Sam Podell

Andre Baruch

Baritone Saxophone

Tom Hauser

French Horn

Andrea Silvestrini

Michelle LeRoy

Gina Zurlo

Bethanie Keem

Chelsey Hamm

Trumpet

Omar Williams

Bridget Colgan

Matthew Sprague

Abbey Clark

Calvin L. Rice

Katherine Hancock

Vincent Venitelli

Stephen Pysnik

Jesse Kleingardner

Fluegelhorn

Omar Williams

Trombone

Paul Barton

Lloyd Dugger

Leslie Ann Brennan

Emily Selman

John Schleiermacher

Scott Cho

Ashley Taylor

Nicholas H. Smarcz

D. Phillip Truex

Daniel Bacigalupi

Euphonium

Mike Vecchio

Sarah Drew

Tuba

Bryan Lewis

Nicholas Gann

Timothy Then

Timpani

Jason E. Taylor

Percussion

Alyssa Cadwalader,

principal

Laurie Sklar

Evan Peltier

Lauretta Noller

Piano

Chris Nickelson

Celeste

Abigail Shenkle

Double Bass

Christopher White