

4-25-2015

Concert recording 2015-04-25

Will Brani

S. Michael Shuman

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Citation

Brani, W., & Shuman, S. M. (2015). Concert recording 2015-04-25. *Concert Recordings*. Retrieved from <https://scholarworks.uark.edu/musccr/127>

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MUSIC
UNIVERSITY
OF ARKANSAS

The University of Arkansas
Fulbright College of Arts & Sciences
Department of Music presents

William Brani, Saxophone
Senior- Performance Degree Recital
S. Michael Shuman- piano

Saturday, April 25, 2015

1:00 p.m. - Stella Boyle Smith Concert Hall

“Owl’s Head” Sonata (1988)

John C. Worley (1919-1999)

I. Bright Morning off Owls Head Light

II. Sunny Day at Crescent Beach

III. Air show at the Transportation Museum

Concerto (1981)

William Schmidt (1926-2009)

~intermission~

Sonata (1974)

Walter S. Hartley (b. 1927)

I. Allegro Moderato

II. Molto Vivace

III. Lento

Sonata (1967)

James Di Pasquale (b. 1941)

I. Andante – Allegro Moderato

II. Adagio non troppo

III. Allegro con brio

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PROGRAM NOTES

John C. Worley (1919-1999)

Worley was a college professor, saxophone artist, and composer. He graduated from Oberlin Conservatory and the Columbia Teachers College, and studied composition with Sir Lennox Berkeley at the Royal Academy of Music in London, England. He taught at the University of Bridgeport, the State University of New York at Oneonta and the University of Maine in Orono.* The *Owl's Head Sonata* (1988), is one of his notable solo works for the tenor saxophone. Inspired by the scenic town of Owl's Head located on the coast of Maine, the first movement refers to the view of the main light house at dawn. The second movement is a lyrical reflection of the bright sunlight glowing off the surface of the coast. The last movement refers to the Transportation Museum that preserves and exhibits pre-1940 aircraft, ground vehicles, engines and related technologies significant to the evolution of transportation for the purpose of education. This closing movement brings about a lighthearted and excitable character to the piece.

(*Biographical information provided by *Wikipedia*)

William Schmidt (1926-2009)

Schmidt was an American composer, arranger and publisher of classical music. He began playing the saxophone at the age of six and later added clarinet and piano. He played professionally by the time he was six and started arranging music shortly after. Following his service in the Navy (1944-46) he studied at the Chicago Musical College and the University of Southern California. In 1959, he formed the Avant Publishing company that later became the core of Western International Music, Inc. Over his life, he composed 160 original compositions and 470 arrangements.* Many of his pieces were influenced by jazz and folk music which is evident in his Concerto for Tenor Saxophone and Symphonic Band. The opening melodies reflect the spirit of folk music, and the ending sections of the piece are filled with polymetric phrases and jazz harmonies.

(*Biographical information provided by *Wikipedia*)

Walter S. Hartley (b. 1927)

Hartley began composing at the age of five. He received all of his degrees, including his Ph.D. in composition, from the Eastman School of Music of the University of Rochester. His list of compositions and arrangements is now over 300, most of which are published. Currently, he is Professor Emeritus of Music Fredonia State University.* His sonata for tenor saxophone reflects a contemporary style through jazz harmonies and 12 tone clusters. It also ends with a Lento movement uncharacteristic of a classical sonata form.

(*Biographical information provided by *walterhartley.com*)

James Di Pasquale (b. 1941)

Before he became a full time composer, Pasquale had a career as a woodwind performer with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, the Bolshoi Ballet, and the Royal Ballet. He is a graduate of Northwestern University and the Manhattan School of Music. As a composer, he has written scores for both film and television including *Armed and Dangerous* and *Hawaii Five-O*.* His *Sonata for Tenor Saxophone and Piano* is one of his more well-known classical works, and has become a significant piece in the tenor repertoire.

(*Biographical information provided by *Wikipedia*)

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