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Ouachita Baptist University Concert Band in a Centennial Concert: American Music

Ouachita Baptist University Concert Band

Ouachita Baptist University

Craig V. Hamilton

Ouachita Baptist University

Francis McBeth

Ouachita Baptist University

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OUACHITA BAPTIST UNIVERSITY CONCERT BAND

CENTENNIAL CONCERT
Craig Hamilton, Conductor
Francis McBeth, Guest Conductor
Mitchell Auditorium
March 13, 1986
7:00 P.M.

Reflections Past

Grave M.M. 6-82 (with feeling)

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James Clifton Williams (1923-1976) - Born in Traskwood, Arkansas, with public school in Malvern, Arkansas, graduating from Central High School in Little Rock, Williams became in the late 50's the premier composer and dominant force in wind composition in the United States while Professor of Composition at the University of Texas. McBeth was a student of Williams in 1956-57. The Sinfonians is a work based on the songs of the Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia Fraternity and dedicated to this national music fraternity.

Dave Ekstrum - (1962 - ) Mr. Ekstrum was born in Jacksonville, Texas, graduated from high school in Texarkana, Texas, and is currently working toward a bachelor of music degree in theory-composition.

Diritta was written in the winter of 1984. Mr. Ekstrum has been a student of Dr. McBeth the past three years.

Howard Hanson - "The achievement of Howard Hanson (Wahoo, Nebraska, 1896-1982) extends beyond his achievements as a composer. It may be safely said that in the second quarter of the 20th Century no individual in the United States did more for the cause of American music than he." This quote is taken from the definitive textbook on contemporary music by Joseph Machlis.

The Second Symphony was composed for the 50th anniversary of the Boston Symphony Orchestra and was premiered by Serge Koussevitzky on November 28, 1930.

This transcription for wind symphony was done by Francis McBeth at Howard Hanson's request and was published by the Eastman School of Music and Carl Fischer in 1983.

McBeth studied with Howard Hanson in 1962-63 and won the Howard Hanson Prize at the Eastman School of Music in April of 1963 with his Third Symphony.

William Francis McBeth (1933 - ) - With Sounding Trumpets was written in November and December of 1985 for the Centennial celebration of the 100th anniversary of Ouachita University.

Grace Praeludium was commissioned by the Arkansas Bandmasters Association in celebration of the life and achievement of J. Raymond Brandon. It was premiered by the composer with the Arkansas All-State Band in February of 1982.

Beowulf - An Heroic Trilogy was written for and dedicated to Harry Pfingsten and the Avon Lake High School Band, Avon Lake, Ohio. It is only the second descriptive work that McBeth has written. It is based on three quotes from the epic poem. It was written in 1983 and premiered in March of 1984 by the Avon Lake High School Band, the composer conducting.
William Francis McBeth [1933- ] is Professor of Music, Resident Composer and Chairman of the Theory-Composition Department at Ouachita University (pronounced wash-i-taw) in Arkadelphia, Arkansas, and has held this position since 1957. Dr. McBeth was appointed to the Lena Trimble Endowed Chair of Music by the president and trustees of Ouachita University in 1983. He was conductor of the Arkansas Symphony Orchestra in Little Rock for many years until his retirement in 1973.

The most outstanding of his awards have been the Presley Award at Hardin-Simmons University, recipient of an ASCAP Special Award each consecutive year from 1965 to present, the American School Band Directors Association's Edwin Franko Goldman Award in 1983, elected Fellow of the American Wind and Percussion Artists by the National Band Association in 1984, National Citation from Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia fraternity in 1985, and the Howard Hanson Prize at the Eastman School of Music for his Third Symphony in 1963. In January 1975 McBeth was appointed Composer Laureate of the State of Arkansas by the Governor, Bob C. Riley.

McBeth's formal training was received at Hardin-Simmons University, University of Texas and the Eastman School of Music. He is a member of the American Bandmasters Association, National Band Association, Phi Beta Mu, Kappa Kappa Psi, Phi Mu Alpha and American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers. His entire published catalog (music and books) is published by Southern Music Company of San Antonio, Texas. His publications include works for all media, choral, chamber, orchestral and band. His intense interest in the wind symphony has been a shaping force in its literature, and his style is much reflected in the younger composers.

As a player, McBeth has performed in Germany, France, Italy, England, Scotland and Iceland. As a composer, he has consistently been in the top group of the most performed American symphonic wind composers the past twenty years, and as a conductor and lecturer, he travels nine months of the year and has conducted in 46 of the 50 states, Canada and Japan.

Craig V. Hamilton [1959- ] is an Instructor of Music and Director of Bands at Ouachita University. Mr. Hamilton received his Bachelor of Music Education Degree from the University of Southern Mississippi in 1981. In 1982 he received a Master of Music Degree and in 1983, a Specialist Degree in Community College Teaching, both from Arkansas State University.

Mr. Hamilton is a member of Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia, Arkansas Band Masters Association, Arkansas School Band and Orchestra Association, National Association of Jazz Educators, Phi Kappa Phi, the International Trumpet Guild, the International Horn Society and Phi Delta Kappa.
PROGRAM

The Sinfonians ........................................... Clifton Williams
Diritta ...................................................... Dave Ekstrum
Symphony No. 2, Movement 3 ....................... Howard Hanson/McBeth
With Sounding Trumpets * ............................. Francis McBeth
Grace Praeludium ........................................ Francis McBeth
Beowulf - An Heroic Trilogy ............................ Francis McBeth

I. Heorot - The Great Hall
   "It came into the mind of Hrothgar the Dane to
   command the construction of a building that
   would be the greatest banqueting hall ever
   known."

II. Grendel - The Scion of Cain
   "From Cain were hatched all evil progenies:
   ogres, monsters and giants who fought so long
   against God."

III. Beowulf - A Feast of Life
   "For each living soul on earth must seek the
   appointed place, where after the feast of life his
   body shall sleep fast in a narrow bed."

* Premiere performance
Trumpets
Rhonda Clark
Vonda Clark
Phillip Ingalls
Jim Lloyd
Mark Roberts
Greg Wilson

Flutes
Missy Carter
Jennifer Milne
Shelly Parker
Sydney Preslar
Shannon Wright

Horns
Lea Anne Haver
Susan Johnson
Bryant Moxley
Brett Stewart
Carol Thompson

Oboe
Susan Bridges

Baritones
Kimma Harper
Eric Webb

Clarinet
Roya Bishop
Cheri Gardner
Shannon Gessling
Christine Hartman
SuLyn Miles
Janet Rico
Dana Runsick
Jan Smith
Janet Tullos

Trombones
Jeff Gulick
Keith Hastey
Candy Meredith
David Moxley

Bass Clarinet
Karen Knapp

Tubas
Chris Dunaway
Rusty Hart

Contra-bass Clarinet
Beth Quarles

Percussion
Amanda Allen
Carole Cook
Marsha Crawford
David Dunston
Holly Gibson
Terry Jackson
Rodney Mays
Jay McClain
Cynthia Potter
Susan Potter
Skip Rowe

Bassoon
Beth Owens

Alto Saxophones
Jackie Hall
Randy Jones
Tony Parr
Russell Sullivan

Tenor Saxophones
Kevin Crowder
Travis Moore

Baritone Saxophone
Tim Ferguson

We are indebted to the Committee of Student Centennial Grants and the Ouachita Student Senate for their help.
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