MIT Concert Band

Director:
Thomas Reynolds

Assistant Conductor:
Steve Babineau

Ottawa Tour 2008

Sunday, April 20, 2008  3:00 PM
City View United Church
Program

English Folk Song Suite .................................. Ralph Vaughan Williams

Toccata Marziale ........................................... Ralph Vaughan Williams

Andante e Rondo Ongarese ................................. Carl Maria von Weber

Eleanor Sonley - Soloist

Music for a Festival ........................................ Gordon Jacob

X Minuet and Trio
IX Madrigal for Brass
II Overture

Nitro ............................................................. Frank Ticheli

Chorale and Toccata ....................................... Jack Stamp

Road Trip ...................................................... Mike Holober

Andrew Greenhut – Soloist
Program Notes

English Folk Song Suite (1924) Ralph Vaughan Williams
Toccata Marziale (1924)

Ralph Vaughan Williams is commonly regarded as one of the leading composers of this century, and one of England's leading composers from any era. Born in Down Ampney, Gloucestershire on October 12, 1872, he studied composition with Charles Wood, Charles Stanford, Max Bruch, and Maurice Ravel. With his nine symphonies he achieved a place as one of the major symphonists of the Twentieth Century. Ralph Vaughan Williams, along with his friend, Gustav Holst, have been credited for cutting the ties which had bound English music to Italy and Germany. Vaughan Williams died in London on August 26, 1958.

The *English Folk Song Suite* was premiered by the Band of the Royal Military School of Music at Kneller Hall in 1923. The piece reflects his lifelong study of folk music. It is representative of Vaughan Williams' masterful scoring and his original writing for winds. The *Suite* has been transcribed for orchestra.

His other band masterwork is *Toccata Marziale*, which along with the *English Folk Song Suite* and several works of Holst form the cornerstone of the classical concert band repertoire. The Toccata Marziale opens with a warlike fanfare and is followed by lyric entrances in the euphonium and then the cornet. The *Toccata* has been described as a piece "unmatched in all band literature."

Andante e Rondo Ongarese (1813) Carl Maria von Weber

Carl von Weber was born in Holstein, Germany in 1786, and was a German composer, conductor, pianist, guitarist and critic. He is considered one of the first significant composers of the Romantic school. Weber's works, especially his operas, greatly influenced the development of the Romantic opera in Germany. He was also an innovative composer of instrumental music.

Weber wrote his *Bassoon Concerto* in 1811, and then revised in 1822, for Georg Friedrich Brandt (1773-1836). Brandt regarded Weber's concerto highly and later asked Weber to write another piece for him. On that occasion, Weber chose to revise a work for viola and orchestra from 1809. The *Andante e Rondo Ungarese* in C minor was reworked for bassoon and orchestra in 1813.
Program Notes

Music for a Festival (1951)  Gordon Jacob

Gordon Jacob composed music for band for more than fifty years, starting with his *William Byrd Suite* (1923) and *An Original Suite* (1928), and including his own favorites, *Flag of Stars* (1954) and *Concerto for Band* (1969). Jacob's writing for band was based on the model established in the early works for band by Holst and Vaughan Williams. Jacob was born in London on July 5, 1895 and attended the Royal College of Music, where his composition teachers included Charles Stanford and Herbert Howells. He was a prolific composer whose works included two symphonies, many concertos (including two for piano and two for oboe), and much chamber, choral, band, and piano music. Jacob died in Saffron, Walden, England on June 8, 1984.

*MUSIC FOR A FESTIVAL* was commissioned by the Arts Council of Great Britain for the Festival of Britain 1951 and was premiered on May 14, 1951, by the band of the Royal Military School of Music conducted by Major Meredith Roberts. Its eleven movements alternate between a brass choir of four trumpets, three trombones, and timpani, and a full band, with the Finale combining both groups. This afternoon's performance consists of three movements from the full suite.

Nitro (2006)  Frank Ticheli

Frank Ticheli was born in 1958 and received his masters and doctoral degrees in composition from the University of Michigan. He joined the faculty of the University of Southern California's Thornton School of Music in 1991, where he is currently Professor of Composition. Ticheli is well known for his works for concert band, many of which have become standards of the repertoire. In addition to composing, he has appeared as guest conductor of his music at Carnegie Hall, at many American universities and music festivals, and in cities throughout the world.

*Nitro* was commissioned by the Northshore Concert Band in celebration of their 50th anniversary season and received its premiere performance by them on April 9th, 2006. The piece is named after Nitrogen, the most abundant component of the atmosphere, which served as the inspiration for the music. The main musical idea for *Nitro* is a powerful angular theme, first introduced by the trombones and horns. The middle section is based on a woodwind theme that is partly fanfare-like, partly dance-like. At the end, the main theme reappears, growing in power and building to a thunderous conclusion.
Program Notes

Chorale and Toccata (1991)  
Jack Stamp

Jack Stamp is Professor of Music and Conductor of Bands at Indiana University of Pennsylvania. Dr. Stamp received his Bachelor of Science in Music Education from IUP, a Master’s in Percussion Performance from East Carolina University, and a Doctor of Musical Arts Degree in Conducting from Michigan State University, where he studied with Eugene Corporon. In 1996, Dr. Stamp received the Orpheus Award from the Zeta Tau Chapter of Phi Mu Alpha for service to music, and in 2000, he was inducted into the prestigious American Bandmasters Association.

_Chorale and Toccata_ was commissioned by the Ohio Private College Instrumental Conductors Association for their 1992 Honor Band. The request was to write a challenging, yet accessible work, suited for small colleges or advanced high school bands. This work is written in a traditional style with a main chorale melody, a toccata theme, and a recurring chordal motif which binds the Toccata. The chorale returns toward the end of the Toccata to complete the work with a cyclic idea.

Road Trip (2007)  
Mike Holober

Mike Holober is an American jazz pianist. Holober leads a big band called the Gotham Jazz Orchestra, a collection of leading New York-based studio jazz musicians. Holober frequently works with bassist John Patitucci. He has recorded two albums on the Sons of Sound label; the first a quintet date entitled Canyons and the second a big band session called Thought Trains. International credits include a recent tour as guest composer, conductor and soloist with the world-renowned Stockholm Jazz Orchestra. In Europe, the R.I.A.S. Big Band in Berlin regularly programs Mike Holobers compositions and he has recently been invited to Helsinki as a guest composer and pianist with UMO, the National Jazz Radio Orchestra of Finland.

Active as a composer in the contemporary classical idiom, Mike Holobers recently commissioned works include “Views From A Train” for the American Saxophone Quartet’s recent release, The Commission Project (Sons of Sound). The ASQ is comprised of members of the New York Philharmonic, and the work features Larry Combs, principal clarinetist with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra. “Road Trip”, for alto saxophone and wind ensemble, was premiered by New York Philharmonic saxophonist David Demsey. “Toccata”, for flute and marimba, was commissioned by flutist Karen Demsey for her recent release with percussionist Greg Gianascioli, Recollections From the Inland Sea.
MIT Concert Band - Soloists

Dr. Eleanor Sonley is a seismologist who has always had a passion for music. Born and raised in Ottawa, she took up the bassoon, studying under Jo Ann Simpson, at age 16. Since then, Eleanor has enjoyed playing with many ensembles including the Parkdale Orchestra, the National Capital Concert Band and the Nepean Concert Band in Ottawa, the Harvard Wind Ensemble and the MIT Concert Band in Boston, and the Binghamton University Orchestra in Binghamton, New York. While she no longer lives in Boston, she feels that the MIT Concert Band is always her home away from home, and would like to thank the band for the opportunity to play the Weber Andante and Hungarian Rondo with them.

Now in his sixth year with the MIT Concert Band, Andrew Greenhut is thrilled to be performing on tour. Born and raised in Brooklyn, NY, Andrew's music career began at age 10 in middle school. Since then, Andrew has performed in countless concerts, musicals, and family events -- even a 'King of Hearts' talent show. He is also fluent in other instruments, performing clarinet, flute or whatever else is needed for a show. Music has always been a passion of Andrew's, and one day he plans to perform on Broadway. Next fall, Andrew will begin his graduate career at MIT, conducting research on alternative energies. He is thankful for this opportunity to perform a solo piece with the MIT Concert Band and for the support of his family and friends.
MIT Concert Band - Director

Thomas E. Reynolds, Director of the MIT Concert Band, is also the Music Director at The Bromfield School in Harvard, Massachusetts, where he is responsible for instrumental, choral, and composition music experiences for students in grades 7-12. He is also a member of the Executive Board of the New England Philharmonic and a Tour Administrator/Assistant Conductor of the United States Collegiate Wind Bands European Tours. A graduate of the New England Conservatory of Music and Ithaca College, Mr. Reynolds has taught music in high schools located in Massachusetts, New Hampshire, and New York over the past twenty years. He has been very active as an adjudicator, clinician, manager, and host of several all-state and regional music festivals. He was the manager and trumpet section leader of the nationally-acclaimed Massachusetts Youth Wind Ensemble in the early days of its existence. Mr. Reynolds plays trumpet professionally and has played euphonium in the MIT Concert Band. He is a member of the New England Music Festival Association, the National Association for Music Education and the Massachusetts Music Educators’ Association, and has recently been selected to the National Board of the John Philip Sousa Foundation. Additionally, Mr. Reynolds is a lifetime member of Pi Kappa Lambda, and honorary music society.

MIT Concert Band - Assistant Conductor

Stephen Babineau is a retired music educator from Phillipston, MA, where he taught in the Narragansett Regional School District for 34 years. A native of Gardner, MA, he has music degrees from Boston University, and a C.A.G.S. from Worcester State College, in which he wrote a study called “School Sponsorship of Community Bands: Pro and Con.” Having studied cornet with Marine Band soloist Adolph Suikkonen, Steve gained a deep appreciation for the musicianship and dedication of the community bands that were prevalent before the institution of school instrumental music programs. At B.U., he studied trumpet with Roger Voisin, strings and pedagogy with George Bornoff, and composition with Hugo Norden. He is founder and director of the Narragansett Community Band, which has played nearly 200 concerts since 1985, and has played in and conducted several area community bands. For the last 12 years, he has conducted “Tuba Christmas” in Shelburne Falls, MA. Steve has also been President, Music Director, and conductor for the Patrick S. Gilmore Society.
MIT Concert Band - History

On Sunday, May 8, 1949, the MIT Concert Band gave its first public performance at the Hatch Memorial Shell on Boston’s Esplanade. Founded by students in the fall of 1948, the MIT Concert Band had been directed since its inception by John Corley. Mr. Corley had made the band widely known for its performance and commissioning of original compositions for winds. In December 1953, the MIT Concert Band became one of the first ensembles to devote itself entirely to original works for band in the belief that the wind band is an important and unique means of musical expression and that its repertoire is deserving of performance.

In addition to performing works of well-known twentieth-century composers such as Hindemith, Copland, and Schoenberg, the band has commissioned many new pieces. Recent commissions include works by Jeff Morrow, Adrian Childs, Thomas Duffy, and Stephen Melillo. In 1986, the Oxford University Press began a project to publish many of the band’s commissioned works. The MIT Concert Band has given the first Boston area performances of many major compositions for band, including Hindemith’s Symphony in Bb, Schoenberg’s Theme and Variations, Holst’s Hammersmith, Giannini’s Symphony No. 3, Hanson’s Chorale and Alleluia, and Reed’s Second Symphony.

Each year the band presents four formal concerts at MIT, a Halloween concert, and two to three concerts on tour. Previous tours have seen the band perform at Niagara Falls State Park; in St. Paul’s Chapel at Columbia University; in front of the Lincoln Memorial; in the Walt Disney World International Festival; in the Festival of Contemporary Music in New York City; in the Quebec Winter Carnival; in New York’s Town Hall; and at many colleges and high schools throughout the eastern United States and Canada. In January 1993, the band spent a week touring Iceland to commemorate the 50th year of John Corley’s conducting career.

The musicians in the MIT Concert Band are students, alumni, and staff of MIT and Wellesley College, most of whom are science or engineering majors. Students play an active role in running the group; an eleven-member board of student officers, elected each year by the band membership, is responsible for the band’s administrative activities.
MIT Concert Band - Members

**Flute**
Rachel Meyer
Amelia Valladeres

**Oboe**
Frank Kreimendahl
Toby Kreimendahl

**English Horn**
Toby Kreimendahl

**Clarinet**
Angela Blackwell
Andrew Freeman
Andrea Hartlerode
Katie Puckett
Don Wilson*

**Bass Clarinet**
Karen Walrath

**Bassoon**
Jessica Fry

**Alto Saxophone**
Kim Jackson
Tanya Kortz

**Tenor Saxophone**
Andrew Greenhut

**Baritone Saxophone**
Tom Cooke

**Trumpet**
Cedric Chandler
Raymond Lewis
Jonathan Morse
Matthew Putnam
Jeff Simpson

**French Horn**
Emily Kramer
Matthew Putnam
Yingdee Unhavaithaya

**Trombone**
Thomas Walker

**Euphonium**
Kurt Frey

**Tuba**
Gisela Chen
Lisa Danz

**Percussion**
Yvonne Cobbige
Kristen Dorsey
Kenneth Marr
Jacob Strauss

**Band Officers**
President:
Emily Kramer
Vice President
Thomas Walker
Personnel Manager
Kenneth Marr
Social Chair
Andrea Hartlerode
Librarian:
Kurt Frey
Archivist:
Jacob Strauss
Members-at-Large
Lisa Danz
Kim Jackson
Matt Putnam
Jeff Simpson

* Special thanks to Ottawa clarinet players Angela Blackwell and Don Wilson, who are joining us for our performance this afternoon.

For more information on the Concert Band, please visit our webpage: [http://web.mit.edu/band/](http://web.mit.edu/band/)