



Humboldt Bay Brass Band

Dr. Gilbert Cline, conductor

Saturday November 1, 2008 - - 8:00 pm

Fulkerson Recital Hall

Humboldt State University - - Arcata, Calif.

V V V V V V V V V V **PROGRAM** V V V V V V V V V V

Poet and Peasant (1846) *Overture* Franz von Suppe (1819-1895)

My Friend from Arcata *Premier performance (this version)* Frank Flowers (1859-1943)
arranged by Gilbert

Cline

for Arcata's 150th Anniversary Celebration

Lord of the Isles *A Scottish Rhapsody* William Rimmer (1862-1936)
Introduction ... "Ca' the ewes to the knowes" ... "Duncan Gray" ...
"When the kye come hame" ... "Blythe, blythe and merry was she" ... "A man's a man for a' that"

Der Wilde Jäger Wilhelm Lüdecke (1868-1938)

Where Eagles Dare (1969) Ron Goodwin (1925-2003)
arranged by Darrol

Barry

V V V V V **INTERMISSION** V V V V V
V V V V V **AFTER THE INTERVAL** V V V V V

Bugler's Dream (1958) *Premier performance (this version)* Leo Arnaud (1904-1991)
arranged by Gilbert

Cline

Um Bom Tambor *Premier performance (this version)* Gregg Moore

The Minstrel Boy traditional, arranged by Gordon
Langford

Tower Bells & Brass in the Firmament *Premier performance (this version)* Gil Cline

Crown Imperial (1937) William Walton (1902-1983)
arranged by Frank Wright

V V V V V **Humboldt Bay Brass Band Personnel** V V V V V

Cornets --

Solo B-flat : Burt Codispoti E-flat Soprano : Tristan Kadish
1st B-flat : Tom Cover & Alex Fonseca
2nd B-flat : William Zoller, Jennifer Reiske, & Perry Crook
3rd B-flat : Gregg Sisk, Joyce Carter, & Oshi Jager
Repiano Cornet : John Ferreira Flügelhorn : Gary Ross

E-flat Tenors -- Matt Morgan, Anwyn Halliday, & Dick LaForge

Trombones -- George Epperson, Doug Hendricks, & Kearney VanderSal - bass tbn

Baritones --	Euphoniums --	Eb Tubas --	BBb Tubas --
Phil Sams	George Ritscher	Gregg Moore	Jerry Carter
Toshi Noguchi	Matt Sullivan	Joe Eckert	Damien Adams

Percussion -- Grace Kerr, Jesica Bishop, Julia Chase, & Justin Sousa

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Program Notes - - by G.C.
- about the music on tonight's Program -

Welcome to the band's first concert here in one year! In our past concerts, we've incorporated such projects as baroque trumpets and timpani, Venetian polychoral music of Giovanni Gabrieli and contemporaries, pipe organ and Romantic-era works, and even a dash of woodwinds -- well, in the case of saxophone, at least they are MADE of brass. Tonight we present rather a "meat and potatoes" concert of works just for full brass band.

As with prior concerts, we've found a satisfying opener to be that of the "orchestral" overture. Tonight, it's the famous **Poet and Peasant** by Franz von Suppe. This was truly "a hit" in the day --

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and was published in that time in dozens of arrangements, including ones by von Suppe, for all manner of musical ensembles. Here's the real joy of playing cornet and such in a Brass Band; at last to be able to lay into all those fast, almost virtuosic lines so often given to violins and woodwinds. Then, there is the privilege of playing classic melodies, "forbidden fruit" as it were, insofar as the brass are so often considered only to be blue-collar workers of music ensembles, called upon for the heavy lifting. Lastly, consider the melody heard about 30 seconds into this piece: it's a reminder that Americans have "pinched" so many existing popular tunes and made them oh-so-American! So, please click on your seat belts and prepare for a ten-minute roller coaster of classic von Suppe melodies.

We present the next music as a modest civic contribution to Arcata and its 150th Sesquicentennial Anniversary. Just a year ago the only existing print music for **My Friend from Arcata** was found in a storage room in a Seattle apartment. A resident there recognized that some 20 pieces referred to places in Humboldt County, and sent the music to the Humboldt County Historical Society. Frank Flowers was part of the generation of cornetists of the time who played in circus bands, led town bands, and were often as popular as major jazz artists today. He settled in Eureka around 1900, played local venues, and became one of Eureka High School's first band directors. This march, and his others, were most likely played in Eureka's Sequoia Park bandstand by the Redwood Empire Concert Band, led by Flowers. The version heard tonight has been highly edited, due to some key instrument parts missing, various needed corrections of harmony, and Flowers' hard-to-read hand manuscript.

In lieu of multi-movement work, **Lord of the Isles** forms a true centerpiece of this portion of the concert. HBBB has for many years enjoyed the writing, both composing and arranging, of the great British bandsman William Rimmer. This arrangement, like his many others, flows in a graceful progression -- beyond that of the simplistic term "medley" -- of seldom-heard Scottish folk tunes. A number of composers have collected folk tunes during countyside travels, and not just in the UK. Such music should be considered "world music" in terms of bucking the trend of a flood of pop music and newly composed music which tends to erase the connections of prior generations. In such music as this, one can travel in time.

Next up is **Der Wilde Jäger** by Wilhelm Lüdecke, a nifty march very much in a stately German style of the late 19th century. It "feels" a bit different to the band in that it's one of the traditional "band

keys" -- D flat -- and those listeners who hear "colors" of the type sometimes associated with music may hear an "affect" like that heard in the Baroque era. Not only is this march new to HBBB, this may be a fairly rare reading of this march in the U.S. and certainly by standard instrumentation brass bands. The source is a set of small-size march books titled "Bismarker Elite Marsche for Blasmusik." The term Bismarker refers to the city of Bismark, Sachsen-Anhalt (Saxony) where Lüdecke lived. Such collections were available for brass bands and were extremely popular, with Lüdecke having more than 2,000 subscribers throughout Germany, Belgium, Denmark, Sweden, England, and overseas. These books were forwarded to HBBB from former HSU brass professor Ken Brungess (a band expert now in the Bay Area) and were, ironically, given to Brungess by David Smith, chair of the HSU music department in the 1960s, '70s, and '80s. Once again, music came home to Humboldt County.

With a German theme in place, we close the first half of the concert with the main theme from **Where Eagles Dare**, the 1969 film starring Richard Burton and Clint Eastwood. This film depicts the World War II rescue by Allied commandoes of an American general held captive in an Alpine castle. Final scenes in the movie involve some fantastic views from a cable-car / tram, plenty of gunfire, a chase scene along a river gorge, and escape by airplane -- all the sorts of things incorporated by Steven Spielberg in his "Raiders of the Lost Ark" action scenes. Ron Goodman arranged for various bands and commercial orchestra projects, played trumpet, and conducted a number of orchestras in the UK and US. He is particularly famous for his film music, working on over 60 film scores, including "Battle of Britain" (replacing William Walton), "633 Squadron," and "Operation Crossbow."

Don't miss HBBB's CD on sale at intermission!

- music after Intermission -

After the Interval, HBBB launches right into another premiere performance, with **Bugler's Dream** by Leo Arnaud, early a trombonist who worked in France and England before coming to the US in 1931, then working in the Hollywood scene until 1966. His 1958 composition "Charge Suite" (long out of print) for a recording session led by American conductor Felix Slatkin, was winnowed down to "Bugler's Dream" and then again reduced to "Olympic Fanfare," used first by ABC Television for the 1968 broadcast of 1968 Winter Olympics in Grenoble, France. That theme made a huge impression on a 15-year old high school student who dreamt of assembling large brass ensembles. That recording, the original 1958 session, I believe, was made with 12 trumpets and 4 bass trumpets, a huge change from Arnaud's original scoring for Brass Choir, essentially the brass section of a symphony orchestra, using horns, trombones, and tubas. My first attempt at arranging this music was in 1972, after being inspired by hearing live for the first time a good drum and bugle corps. The present arrangement, I believe, is the best of all these worlds, utilizing the resources of a proper brass band.

Um Bom Tambour ("A Good Drum") is by HBBB member and local composer Gregg Moore, who has decades of experience with "world brass" from his years of performing with brass bands in Europe and studying brass bands around the globe. This is the premiere performance for British-style brass band of his 1994 piece composed for a William Shakespeare play in Portugal; the title is the Portuguese translation of a line from the play. (Locally, check out Gregg's world brass project "Bandemonium.")

The centerpiece of the second half of our concert is **The Minstrel Boy**. Many cultures and lands have had wandering professional musicians, although this particular title certainly refers to those of the continental and English tradition. This piece is simply a short, reflective, traditional tune, using the resources of full brass band ... including some unusual mutes for the cornets!

Two years ago an HSU brass ensemble performed a concert from Sather Tower (the Campanille) at UC Berkeley. **Tower Bells & Brass in the Firmament** was composed for that concert, some 200+ feet above the ground, with the tower's Carillon. This musical instrument is comprised of 61 chromatically tuned bells, including large bells weighing many tons suspended just overhead of the performers. A work like this can be termed a "soundscape" -- that of tons of bells, in all directions. Featured here are chimes, orchestra bells, and celesta -- along with all the brass playing "belltones."

Closing our concert is the striking **Crown Imperial** by William Walton, composed for the coronation of King George VI in 1937. The piece was also used in 1953 for the coronation of Queen Elizabeth II. The title is from a line of poetry by William Dunbar. We hope you enjoy the journey!

- about HBBB -

HBBB is a research project in the brass ensemble area of the HSU Music Department, formed after an inspiring 2003 sabbatical trip to England to visit museums, instrument collections, the Royal Northern Conservatory, trumpet makers, brass bands in the midlands, and the National Brass Band Championships of Great Britain, held at Royal Albert Hall in London. Upon my return, George Ritscher, then new to the area, expressed interest in helping form a band, and since George possesses a brass band music library far exceeding what HSU owns or is likely to assemble, the planets seemed in perfect alignment. HBBB was born. Members include students and leading community brass players attending our once-weekly rehearsals driving from Eureka, Fortuna, Ferndale, and Redway to the south, and from as far away as Brookings, Oregon to the north.

The repertory of UK bands is fundamentally different from American bands, beginning with a standard instrumentation of two dozen brass players and three percussionists, required for the competitions, and useful for the ready availability of published music. All the brass parts (even tubas!) are in treble clef, so that as with saxophone, players may easily switch instruments and read with the same fingerings. The conical cornet, facile and light like a sports car, is employed for all the high parts -- serving much the same role as violins in orchestras or as flutes and clarinets in (wood) wind bands. Band programming in the UK is polarized to crowd pleasers (marches, orchestral transcriptions, and the like) on one end, with difficult cutting edge test pieces on the other end. HBBB has explored both these extremes, while adding some of our own local works.

HBBB has hosted local bands at FRH, recorded a full-length audio CD, and performed at Eureka's 150th -- a sesquicentennial celebration of the City of Eureka, held in April 2006. The Humboldt County Historical Society's Spring 2006 issue of the "Humboldt Historian" included an article about four local compositions (dating from 1865 to 1914) which are recorded on the band's "Pageantry of Brass" audio CD. Limited copies of that CD are on sale tonight at intermission, at reduced cost to concert attendees. Last winter HBBB shared its music with the world-at-large via Podcast: Internet radio/ audio programs available for download to portable digital audio devices. Look for HBBB online at Brass Cast -- pryan@brasscast.com (Peter Ryan).

- credits and thanks -

Please visit -- <http://www.humboldt.edu/hbbb> (website by Grace Kerr)

Email comments/inquiries to Gil Cline -- gdc1@humboldt.edu

Stage managers : Jerilyn Gashi, George Ritscher, and the percussion section

Ushers : Ashley Frazier & Stephanie Douglass

Recording technician : Taylor Easley

Instrument technician : Michael Skwier

Poster design & printing : HSU Graphic Services

Access Humboldt, Channel 12, videos: Tyler Cline

Music Department Office support: Cheryl Wheeler & Barbara Cline

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