

PCD2014/11/14

OR THE PERFORMING ARTS

JAMES MADISON UNIVERSITY.

School of Music

presents

JMU

Brass Band

Kevin Stees, *conductor*

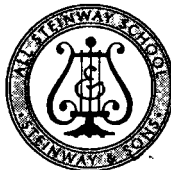
with

Andrew Lankford, *trombone*

Friday, November 14, 2014

8 pm

Concert Hall



Program

Walking with Heroes

Paul Lovatt-Cooper
(b. 1976)

Masque

Kenneth Hesketh
(b. 1968)

Concertino for Band and Trombone

Erik Leidzen
(1894-1962)

Andrew Lankford, *trombone*

Hymn for Diana

Joseph Turrin
(b. 1947)

Music of the Spheres

Phillip Sparke
(b. 1951)

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personal computers, and any other electronic devices.

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Program Notes

Walking with Heroes - Paul Lovatt-Cooper

The idea behind the title is that as humans we remember great people living and passed who have touched our lives and have made a big impact on how we lead our lives: people like our loved ones, family members, friends and even religious leaders and celebrities. They have either taught us, helped us to understand or lead their lives by example and in our eyes, are heroes. We look up to these people, and remember them as heroes. Their spirit and influence stays with us wherever we are. Thus, we are "Walking with Heroes".

Notes by the Composer

Masque - Kenneth Hesketh

The Masque has had a varied history, certainly a varied spelling ('masque', 'maske' even 'maskeling'). However, the historian E.K. Chambers in his book *The Medieval Stage* defines the word in the following way: "A form of revel in which mummers or masked folk come, with torches blazing, into the festive hall uninvited and call upon the company to dance and dice".

The above description can also serve as a description to the piece. Masque is bravura in style - an exciting, driving five-minute work in the form of a simple scherzo-trio- scherzo. The colorful scoring contrasts solo and ripieno passages with full-blown tutti.

Notes by the Composer

Concertino for Band and Trombone - Erik Leidzén

In his **Concertino for Band and Trombone**, Erik Leidzén took Salvation Army virtuoso solo music beyond the traditional air varié form. The order in the title was intentional, not trombone and band, but band and trombone. Leidzén wished to focus attention on the corporate endeavour, not on soloistic display. Written for Maisie Ringham Wiggins, then principal trombone of the Hallé Orchestra, this Concertino pointed a correct, new course for Salvation Army solo music. Not only was display for its own sake to be underplayed, but the formal means chosen provided the right frame and garb in which to express, through music, both specific spiritual concepts and, especially, the ineffable ideas of the spirit that may be so effectively illuminated through instrumental music.

*Notes by Ronald Holz adapted from the CD -
The History of The Brass Band: The Salvation Army Connection*

Program Notes *continued*

Hymn for Diana - Joseph Turrin

I composed **Hymn for Diana** the week of September 7, 1997. I wanted to pay tribute to Princess Diana's life and all that she represented to the people of this world. The Hymn opens with a stately chorale that is the main focus of the work. Following is a brief lighter section with almost a waltz quality which builds to a rather short climax. There is at this point, a building of tension culminating in descending diatonic scale patterns. I thought of the memorial service on Sept. 6, 1997 from Westminster Abbey. At the conclusion there was this cascade of descending bells, so haunting and dreadful. I will never forget that sound. The main chorale now returns in full glory. There is a diminuendo, then a short building of tension once again. The lighter waltz section returns and the piece slowly fades into the distance. Although the work has a mournful quality, there is a touch of optimism and grace throughout. Very much like Princess Diana herself, *And her ways are ways of gentleness and all her paths are peace.*

Notes by the Composer

Music of the Spheres - Philip Sparke

The title comes from a theory, formulated by Pythagoras, that the cosmos was ruled by the same laws he had discovered that govern the ratios of note frequencies of the musical scale. ('Harmonia' in Ancient Greek, which means scale or tuning rather than harmony – Greek music was monophonic). He also believed that these ratios corresponded to the distances of the six known planets from the sun and that the planets each produced a musical note which combined to weave a continuous heavenly melody (which, unfortunately, we humans cannot hear). In this work, these six notes form the basis of the sections **MUSIC OF THE SPHERES** and **HARMONIA**.

The pieces opens with a horn solo called $t = 0$, a name given by some scientists to the moment of the Big Bang when time and space were created, and this is followed by a depiction of the **BIG BANG** itself, as the entire universe bursts out from a single point. A slower section follows called **THE LONELY PLANET** which is a meditation on the incredible and unlikely set of circumstances which led to the creation of the Earth as a planet that can support life, and the constant search for other civilizations elsewhere in the universe. **ASTERIODS AND SHOOTING STARS** depicts both the benign and dangerous objects that are flying through space and which constantly threaten our planet, and the piece ends with **THE UNKNOWN**, leaving in question whether our continually expanding exploration of the universe will eventually lead to enlightenment or destruction.

Notes by the Composer

Biographies

Kevin Stees, now in his 30th year as Professor of Tuba and Euphonium at James Madison University, leads an active career as a soloist, chamber musician, conductor and music educator. He has studied with tuba artists Daniel Perantoni (Indiana University), Charles Daellenbach (Canadian Brass) and Jack Tilbury (U.S. Army Brass Quintet, ret.) and holds music degrees from University of Illinois and Arizona State University. He has been a finalist in several solo competitions and was a prize winner in the Second International Brass Congress Tuba Solo Competition.

Kevin has presented solo and chamber music performances at numerous universities, conferences, music festivals and workshops, including the U.S. Army Band Tuba- Euphonium Conference, Southeast Regional Tuba-Euphonium Conference, International Tuba-Euphonium Conference and the Keystone Brass Institute. He has performed with a number of orchestras including the Roanoke Symphony Orchestra, Phoenix Symphony, Canadian Chamber Orchestra and the Calgary Philharmonic, and was a member of the Southwest Brass Quintet and the Skyline Brass.

Kevin currently performs with the Madison Brass (quintet-in-residence at James Madison University), the Shenandoah Valley Bach Festival Orchestra and the Wintergreen Music Festival Orchestra. In addition to performances on tuba, he is very active as the conductor of the award winning Massanutten Brass Band and the internationally recognized James Madison University Brass Band. He is on the Board of Directors of the North American Brass Band Association.

Andrew Lankford, Professor of Trombone at James Madison University, holds the B.M. in Music Education from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, the M.M. in Trombone Performance from the University of Kansas, and the D.M.A. in Trombone Performance from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. His primary teachers include Randy Kohlenberg and Max Bonecutter.

Prior to his joining the faculty of James Madison University in 2001, Dr. Lankford held teaching positions at Louisiana Tech University, Armstrong Atlantic State University, and the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. In addition, he is on the faculty of the Sulzbach-Rosenberg International Music Festival in Germany. Currently, he is principal trombone with the Waynesboro Symphony, trombonist with the Madison Brass, solo trombonist with the Massanutten Brass Band, and a member of Mr. Jefferson's Bones.

He has performed with numerous ensembles including the North Carolina Symphony, Longview Symphony, Winston Salem Symphony, Greensboro Symphony, Lynchburg Symphony, Shenandoah Symphony, Brevard Chamber Orchestra, and the Kansas City Boulevard Big Band. In addition, he has performed with notable commercial artists including Wayne Newton, Gladys Knight, the Temptations, Margaret Whiting, and Kevin Mahogany.

As a soloist, he has appeared at the Eastern Trombone Workshop, the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, and as featured soloist with the JMU Symphony Orchestra, JMU Brass Band, Massanutten Brass Band, JMU Wind Symphony, JMU Jazz Band, JMU Concert Band, Armstrong Community Band, UNCG Symphony Orchestra, and Louisiana Tech Jazz Ensemble.

Personnel

Principal Cornet	Matt Harper
Soprano Cornet	Charlie Frise
Solo Cornet	Vince Bryk
	Robert Wollenberg
	Ben Flint
Repiano Cornet	Tyler Bailey
2nd Cornet	Michael Parker
	Mary Pearson
	Allie Woodbury
3rd Cornet	Will Jones
	Micah Hodges
Flugel Horn	John Nye
Solo Horn	Myles Matalavage
1st Horn	Hunter Payne
2nd Horn	Stephanie Ashwell
	Austin Frank
1st Baritone	Ryan Stees
2nd Baritone	Allie Hunter
1st Trombone	Megan Hendrix
2nd Trombone	Ryan Doherty
Bass Trombone	TJ Low
Solo Euphonium	Joel Collier
2nd Euphonium	Aaron Campbell
Eb Bass	Eric Goode
	Richard Mounts
Bb Bass	Will Mason
	Matt Knopp
	Josh Benbow
Percussion	Elayne Harris
	Casey Sagolla-Slamp
	Paige Durr
	Cheryl Leighton

Upcoming Events

November 2014

Valley Collegium Musicum	Sat., Nov. 15 @ 8 pm, Muhlenberg Lutheran Church*
DMA Recital - Mun Fei Chor, <i>piano</i>	Sun., Nov. 16 @ 1 pm, Recital Hall
JMU Steel Band	Sun. Nov. 16 @ 2 pm, Music Bldg 108*
DMA Recital - Yining Jenny Jiang, <i>piano</i>	Sun., Nov. 16 @ 5 pm, Recital Hall
JMU String Chamber Ensembles I	Sun. Nov. 16 @ 7 pm, Duke Hall Gallery*
JMU String Chamber Ensembles II	Mon., Nov. 17 @ 8 pm, Anthony-Seeger*
JMU Jazz Combos	Tues., Nov. 18 @ 7 - 9 pm, Artful Dodger
JMU Concert Band	Tues., Nov. 18 @ 8 pm, Concert Hall*
JMU Chamber Winds II	Wed., Nov. 19 @ 8 pm, Anthony-Seeger*

*These concerts provide student credit for MUS 195.

For tickets and further information, visit www.jmu.edu/forbescenter or call the Forbes Center Box Office at (540) 568-7000. For more on the School of Music, go to www.jmu.edu/music or call (540) 568-6714.

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