

Jan Berry, saxophone
with
Roger Admiral, piano
and
Anne Scott, cello

Sunday, March 7, 1999
at 8:00 pm

Convocation Hall, Arts Building
University of Alberta

Program



Department of Music
University of Alberta

Program

Concerto for Alto Saxophone
and Concert Band (1967)

Karel Husa
(1921)

I Prologue

II Ostinato

III Epilogue

Four Short Songs: a certain sadness (1991) Mark Engebretson
For Alto Saxophone and Cello (b. 1964)

*Canadian Premiere

Distances Within Me (1979)

John Anthony Lennon
(b.1950)

Intermission

aeterna (1996)

John Anthony Lennon

Sonata (1984)

William Albright
(1944-1998)

I Two-Part Invention

II La follia nuova: a lament for George Cacioppo

III Scherzo "Will o' the wisp

IV Recitative and Dance

Program Notes

Karel Husa was born in Prague, Czechoslovakia, where he studied at the Prague Conservatory. After moving to Paris to study with Boulanger and Honegger at the Conservatoire he emigrated to the United States where he has been on the faculty at Cornell University since 1954. He was awarded the 1969 Pulitzer Prize for his Third String Quartet.

Written in 1967, the *Concerto for Alto Saxophone and Concert Band* was commissioned and dedicated to the Cornell Wind Ensemble and its director, Maurice Stith. It was premiered at Cornell University, March 17, 1968 with soloist Sigurd Rascher under the direction of the composer. The concerto was Husa's first work for wind ensemble. The work is in three movements, but the similarities to a classical concerto end there. The outer movements, the Prologue and Epilogue, are characterized by free, angular and improvisatory statements that range in dramatic mood from expressive declamation to quiet reflection. These movements frame the climactic Ostinato, which demonstrates a characteristic feature of Husa's music. The steady crescendo and increasing intensity of the rhythmic motives propel the movement to the defiant ending.

Mark Engebretson's works have been heard at major festivals and concert halls in Europe and America, including Wien Modern, Ny Musikk (Bergen, Norway), ISCM/Austrain Music Days (Tirana, Albania) and the Baltic Music Festival "Gaida" (Vilnius, Lithuania), the Indiana State University New Music Festival (Terre Haute, IN) and the Philharmonia Hall in Warsaw, Poland. He has received numerous commissions from the Austrian Cultural Ministry, the Swedish Society for Composers (STIM) and the Lake Forest High School Percussion Ensemble.

Engebretson began his composition studies in 1987 with Michel Fuste-Lambezat at the Conservatoire National de Region de Bordeaux, while studying saxophone with Jean-Marie Londeix on a Fulbright/Annette Kade Fellowship. His composition teachers include M. William Karlins, Pauline Oliveros, Marta Ptaszynska, Michael Pisaro, Stephen Syverud and Jay Alan Yim.

The composer writes:

"*Four Short Songs: a certain sadness* (for cello and alto saxophone) was written during my Masters studies at Northwestern University. At the time, I was thinking of Anton Webern, and how he would write short little musical gems. I wanted to write four short movements or songs, each of which would present its idea as succinctly as possible, and come to a conclusion without belaboring the point."

"While I was working on the piece, I had a lesson with Professor Alan Stout, to whom I am indebted for the idea of the fourth movement. Having already composed the first three, I was searching for a musical concept for the last song. He suggested, 'Why don't you write a Ghost movement?' So I did."

"While this is an early work, I think it is an important one in my compositional development. I think it is the first piece I wrote in which my compositional "style" can be discerned - indeed, it is today the earliest piece of mine which I still enjoy hearing. There are a number of versions

of this piece, the original being the version for alto saxophone and cello. While the version for 3 saxophones and the version for saxophone and piano were premiered earlier, the original version was premiered by Kristin Uglar and an unknown cellist in March 1993."

John Anthony Lennon has received commissions from the Fromm Foundation, the John F. Kennedy Theatre Chamber Players, Library of Congress, the Boston Symphony Chamber Players, the National Endowment for the Arts Orchestral Consortium and many others. In addition to the Prix de Rome, Guggenheim, Friedheim and Charles Ives Awards, Lennon has been the recipient of numerous prizes and has held fellowships at Tanglewood, the Rockefeller Center at Bellagio, the Camargo Foundation, Villa Montalvo, Yaddo, the Atlantic Center for the Arts and the MacDowell Colony as a Norlin Foundation Fellow. A professor of composition at Emory University, Lennon resides in Atlanta.

Of Distances Within Me, the composer writes:

"The title refers to a range of emotions and reflects the instinctive, rather than formal, ways the piece was composed. Several recurring themes or motives give the sense of a rondo form to the work, although it is actually through-composed. I have attempted to arrange the pace at which the emotions shift by creating areas of different intensity (i.e. degree of chromaticism) and density."

aeterna was commissioned by Jamal Rossi with Ken Dorn Publications and completed in February, 1996. Two versions of the piece exist. The first is performed acoustically and the other involves using an Echoplex to create an aura of imitated sounds. Using alternating fingerings, the piece unfolds through its material coloristically. There is a sense the piece is an excerpt of unfoldings that could continue indefinitely. --Notes by John Anthony Lennon

Composer, pianist and organist, **William Albright** studied with Finney, Rochberg and Messiaen at the Paris Conservatory. In 1970 he was appointed as associate director of the electronic music studio at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor. Albright describes his music as being generous, eclectic and maximal. He states, "I enjoy and prefer messy diversity to boring unity. Many works are public; many are private. I enjoy lively rhythm and ecstatic beauty."

Written in 1984, Albright's *Sonata* opens with a "two-part invention" emphasizing rapid interchange of material between piano and saxophone. Regarding the second movement Albright states, "The Piece is dedicated to the memory of the composer George Cacioppo who died unexpectedly on April 8, 1984. Co-founder of the ONCE Group and mentor to three generations of composers, Cacioppo and his music and personality are the foundation of my thinking. He would very much appreciate the use of the traditional title 'La Follia (the madness)' in my reincarnation as 'La Follia nuova.' This movement is in a chaconne-variation form. At times sections are jumbled together or intersect." Albright's third movement is a rapid scherzo which rarely rises above the level of pianissimo. A lengthy recitative for saxophone begins the final Mad Dance, which contains imitations of American popular styles.

Jan Berry holds a Bachelor of Music in Performance from the University of Alberta and a Master of Music in Performance from Northwestern University (Illinois). She has been the recipient of many prestigious awards from these Universities including the Gold Medal and Scholarship for Outstanding Achievement in the Faculty of Arts and the Martha Read Steinbach '39 Scholarship. In addition, Ms Berry was the recipient of the Johann Strauss Foundation Scholarship for the Advanced Study of Music in Austria. Her principal teachers have included Frederick L. Hemke, William H. Street, Barb Lorenz, Eugene Rousseau (Austria) and Jean-Marie Londeix (France).

As a winner of many competitions, Ms Berry has also performed as a soloist with the University of Alberta Wind Ensemble (recorded by CBC radio) and the Northwestern Symphony Orchestra. She has also performed in many concerts throughout North America and Europe and has been in a finalist in both the North American Saxophone Alliance Concerto Competition and the Fischhoff National Chamber Music Competition.

An active educator, Ms Berry is the Visiting Assistant Professor of Saxophone at the University of Alberta. She is currently pursuing a Doctor of Music in Saxophone Performance at Northwestern University.

Pianist **Roger Admiral** recently completed his Doctor of Music degree at the University of Alberta. He also holds degrees from the University of Western Ontario and the Royal Conservatory of Music, and has studied with Helmut Brauss, Peter Smith, Arthur Rowe and Virginia Blaha. Between 1990 and 1993 Roger was a member of the piano and percussion quartet The Hammerhead Consort, winners of the 1992 Sir Ernest Macmillan Memorial Prize for chamber music. He is pursuing a solo career and is in high demand for chamber music performances and accompanying.

Anne Scott began her studies at 8 years of age with the Suzuki method in Edmonton. She graduated from the University of Alberta where she was a pupil of Claude Kenneson. Later she earned both the Associate Diploma from the Western board of Music and the Diploma of Music Performance from the Mount Royal Conservatory in Calgary where she studied with John Kadz. Anne spent four years in Ottawa where she played with the Ottawa Symphony, the ensemble 'Thirteen Strings', and was a busy freelance player. She occasionally plays in the cello section of the Edmonton Symphony and the Prince George Symphony and is a well known chamber music performer in Alberta.

Upcoming Events:

Saturday, March 13 at 7:00 pm
Bonnie Doon Community League
9240 - 93 Street
Admission: \$15/adult, \$12/student/senior

Sunday, March 14 at 2:00 pm
Convocation Hall, Arts Building
Free admission

Sunday, March 14 at 8:00 pm
Convocation Hall, Arts Building
Admission: \$10/adult, \$5/student/senior

Monday, March 15 at 8:00 pm
Convocation Hall, Arts Building
Free admission

Wednesday, March 17 at 8:00 pm
Convocation Hall, Arts Building
Admission: \$10/adult, \$5/student/senior

Friday, March 19 at 5:00 pm
Convocation Hall, Arts Building
Admission: \$10/adult, \$5/student/senior

Saturday, March 20 at 8:00 pm
Convocation Hall, Arts Building
Free admission

Monday, March 22 at 12:10 pm
Convocation Hall, Arts Building
Free admission

Monday, March 22 at 3:00 pm
Tuesday, March 23 at 10:00 am
Convocation Hall, Arts Building
Admission: [see page 6]

Tuesday, March 23 at 8:00 pm
Timms Centre foyer
Admission: \$10/adult, \$5/student/senior

"Lands of Songs". The University of Alberta Concert Choir Fund Raising Event featuring the **University of Alberta Concert Choir, Ukrainian Centennial Men's Chorus and Dances of Universal Peace**. For further information, please call 492-2384 or 986-6370.

Master of Music Recital: **Jolaine Kerley, soprano**. Program to be announced.

The University of Alberta Academy Strings. Tanya Prochazka, conductor. Program will include works by F Mendelssohn, Burak, Tchaikovsky, and Bach with **viola soloists Brianne Archer and Sheldon Person**.

Master of Music Recital: **Jennifer Goodine, organ**. Program to be announced.

The University of Alberta Symphonic Wind Ensemble Concert. Fordyce Pier, director. Program will include works by Spake, Britten, Mercello, and Camphouse.

Visiting Artist Recital featuring **Jonathan Helton, saxophone**. Program to be announced.

Master of Music Recital: **Susan Ward, piano**. Program to be announced.

Music at Noon, **Convocation Hall Student Recital Series** featuring students from the Department of Music

Masterclasses with **world-renowned cellist Janos Starker**.

World Music Concert featuring fiddler Frank Leahy and violinist Eduard Minevich in a hilarious revue (mixed with serious stories about their different traditions).

Upcoming Events (continued):

Saturday, March 27 at 8:00 pm
Convocation Hall, Arts Building
Admission: \$10/adult, \$5/student/senior

Sunday, March 28 at 8:00 pm
Convocation Hall, Arts Building
Free admission

Monday, March 29 at 12:00 pm
Convocation Hall, Arts Building
Admission: TBA

Friday, April 2 at 8:00 pm
Convocation Hall, Arts Building
Admission: \$10/adult, \$5/student/senior

Wednesday, April 7 at 8:00 pm
John L Haar Theatre
Grant MacEwan Community College
Admission: \$7/adult, \$5/student/senior

Thursday, April 9 at 8:00 pm
Convocation Hall, Arts Building
Admission: \$7/adult, \$5/student/senior

Sunday, April 11 at 3:00 pm
Convocation Hall, Arts Building
Admission: \$7/adult, \$5/student/senior

Sunday, April 11 at 8:00 pm
Convocation Hall, Arts Building
Admission: \$7/adult, \$5/student/senior

Faculty Recital featuring **organist Marnie Giesbrecht**. The program includes two contemporary works: *Retablo III: Victimae Paschali Laudes* (1997) by American composer Pamela Decker and *La Nuit des Nuits* (Canadian premiere 1993) by French composer Valéry Aubertin, as well as works by Sweelinck, Buxtehude, Bach/Vivaldi, Mendelssohn and Dupré.

Master of Music Recital: **John Brough**, choral conducting. Program to be announced.

Visiting Artists Concert featuring **The Winnipeg Singers**, one of the finest chamber choirs in Canada, **under the direction of co-conductors Mel Braun and Victor Pankratz**. Program to be announced.

Faculty Recital featuring **clarinetist Allison Storochuk** with **pianist Roger Admiral**. Program to be announced.

The GMCC and U of A Jazz Bands Concert. Ray Baril and Tom Dust, directors. *Salute to the Bands* - a tribute to the great swing bands of the 1930s and 1940s featuring music of Goodman, Herman, James, Dorsey, Kenton, Ellington and many more. For ticket information, please call 497-4436.

The University of Alberta Concert Choir Concert. Debra Cairns, conductor. Program to be announced.

The University of Alberta Concert Band Concert. Frank Dunnigan, director. Program to be announced.

The University Symphony Orchestra Concert. Malcolm Forsyth, conductor. Program will include works by Berlioz, Beethoven and Dvořák.
Solo violin: David Colwell.



Please Note: All concerts and events are subject to change without notice. Please call 492-0601 to confirm concerts (after office hours a recorded message will inform you of any changes to our schedule).