

University of Texas at El Paso

From the Selected Works of Dominic Dousa

February 13, 2007

"Great Plains Hymn" for concert band

Dominic Dousa, *University of Texas at El Paso*



Available at: https://works.bepress.com/dominic_dousa/70/

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT EL PASO DEPARTMENT OF

Music

PRESENTS

University Wind Symphony

Ron Hufstader, Conductor

&

Symphonic Band

Curtis Tredway, Conductor

William Lytle, Graduate Assistant

Tuesday February 13, 2007

Fox Fine Arts Recital Hall

7:30 pm

PROGRAM

Symphonic Band

Three Revolutionary Marches

Bedřich Smetana (1824 - 1884)
arranged by Vaclav Nelhybel

-William Lytle, Graduate Assistant-

Sussex Mummers' Christmas Carol

Percy Grainger (1882 - 1961)
completed by Richard Franko Goldman

Unraveling

Andrew Boysen Jr. (1968 -)

-INTERMISSION-

University Wind Symphony

Symphonic Movement

Vaclav Nelhybel (1919-1996)

-William Lytle, Graduate Assistant-

Great Plains Hymn

Dominic Dousa (1973-)

- *World Premiere* -

A Danish Bouquet

Ira Hearshen (1948-)

1. Bispens Datter af Engeland
2. Per Svinedreng
3. Jerusalems Skomager
4. Kaerlighedsvise
5. Herr Peders Staldedreng

- Texas Premiere -

Commando March

Samuel Barber (1910 - 1981)

Program Notes
By William Lytle

Symphonic Band

***Three Revolutionary Marches* by Bedřich Smetana (1824 – 1884) arranged by Vaclav Nelhybel**

Three Revolutionary Marches is based on two piano compositions and a song by Bedřich Smetana originally entitled *Three Pieces for the Revolution of 1848*. The short works were among the famous composer's first published music, and give early evidence of the ardent nationalism that would become a hallmark of his musical style. The Revolution that inspired these pieces had broken out all across Europe in the spring of 1848, and was literally occurring in the streets of Prague as Smetana penned some of this music.

The first march is dedicated to the Czech National Guard, a body formed of the citizenry to protect their rights under the newly granted constitution. The National Guard served the people, but remained loyal to the Hapsburg Monarchy that ruled the Czech lands at the time. This loyalty is symbolized by Smetana's use of fragments of Haydn's *Austrian Hymn* within the march.

The second march is dedicated to the group of Prague university students who were mainly responsible for organizing the rebellion. It is based on three tunes. The first is *Gaudeamus Igitur*, a song long associated with academia. The trio is based on two drinking songs sung to rally the students.

The final movement originally had a text by J. J. Kollár. The song was meant to serve as the anthem of *Svornost*, the most radical armed contingent that participated in the revolution. Smetana was known to be a member of *Svornost* and took part in guarding one of their barricades in the city of Prague. It was also the first time Smetana set a Czech text to music. Vaclav Nelhybel scored the marches for symphonic band in 1967.

***Sussex Mummers' Christmas Carol* by Percy Grainger (1882 – 1961) completed by Richard Franko Goldman.**

Lucy Broadwood was one of the first scholars to set off across the English countryside to record the songs of the common people. She was one of the founding members of the Folk Song Society and collected and had published hundreds of tunes during her lifetime. On many occasions she worked closely with both Ralph Vaughan Williams and Percy Grainger. The tune for this piece was collected by Miss Broadwood in 1880 or 1881 near Horsham in Sussex, England from a group of Mummers.

The Mummer tradition dates back to the Roman era and involves a loud procession of wildly costumed revelers. The purpose of this celebration was to drive away the demons of the new year. To this day the Mummers' Parade remains the center

of New Year's Day festivities in Philadelphia. English Mummers' parades once included short musical dramas. This particular carol was sung as a part of a Christmas play entitled "St. George, the Turk, and the Seven Champions of Christendom." It is an expressive and beautiful melody, certainly atypical of the normally raucous Mummers' music.

Australian-born composer Percy Grainger made his original setting of the *Sussex Mummers' Christmas Carol* sometime between 1905 and 1911. Grainger would become one of the most beloved and renowned composers of music for wind band. Late in his life he was approached by Richard Franko Goldman, conductor of the famous Goldman Band, and asked to arrangement his setting of this tune for winds. Unfortunately, Grainger died in 1961 before finishing the arrangement. Goldman then completed and scored it as it will be heard here.

***Unraveling* by Andrew Boysen Jr. (1968 -)**

Andrew Boysen, contemporary band composer, based this new piece, *Unraveling*, around one melodic idea. The melody is passed from section to section throughout the band and becomes increasingly intense, seeming to unravel as it goes. Boysen employs several interesting techniques to achieve many new and exciting colors throughout the piece. At times the band is called upon to sing, and the trumpet and trombone sections to play only their mouthpieces.

Andrew Boysen is currently an assistant professor of music at the University of New Hampshire. He has also taught at the Indiana State University and the Eastman School of Music, where he received his Doctor of Musical Arts degree.

Wind Symphony

***Symphonic Movement* by Vaclav Nelhybel (1919 – 1996)**

Symphonic Movement was composed in 1966 for John Paynter and the Northwestern University Symphonic Band. The piece is written very loosely within the serialist technique of the Second Viennese School of composers. Serial music is atonal in nature and draws all of its melodic material from a specific series of twelve notes. For most of *Symphonic Movement*, Nelhybel employs only an eight note series. Frederick Fennell said of this piece "the music's demands for the technical facility and solid musicianship from every player of every instrument probably was responsible for a change of attitude among young performers and their conductors wherever this music was approached." *Symphonic Movement* is a very powerful and at times harsh work of music. While no specific program exists within this piece Nelhybel did say that music written in this style was a way in which the human mind tried to "master the chaos of world complexities."

Vaclav Nelhybel was born in Prague, Czechoslovakia in 1921. He escaped deportation by the occupying Nazi forces during World War II by enrolling in the Prague Conservatory. After the war he traveled to Switzerland to continue his studies but found

himself stuck there when the communists took over his native country. In 1950 he became director of Radio Free Europe and in 1957 immigrated to United States. He became an American citizen in 1962. Nelhybel was a composer of works requiring great technical skill, pieces for very young student musicians, and everything in between. He died in Scranton, Pennsylvania in 1996. The author would like to thank Mrs. Dortha Nelhybel for her help in researching this music.

***Great Plains Hymn* by Dominic Dousa (1973 -)**

Dr. Dominic Dousa, a native of Rochester, Minnesota, joined the UTEP music faculty in 2004. Here he has taught second year music theory and aural skills, all levels of composition and several seminars on specialized topics in music. Dr. Dousa's compositions have received successful performance throughout the United States, Mexico, South America and China. In addition to his activities as a teacher and composer, he has also remained active as an accompanist and chamber musician. The Wind Symphony will be premiering *Great Plains Hymn* this evening. Of this new piece Dr. Dousa writes:

The Great Plains have always stirred in me thoughts and feelings about a world that is wide open, free, and awe-inspiring. I have experienced the beauty of this vast land both in my travels and in my imagination. Great Plains Hymn is a song of praise, a "hymn", in celebration of this land, its grandeur, and its glorious spirit.

***The Danish Bouquet* by Ira Hearshen (1948 -)**

Ira Hearshen was born in Detroit, Michigan and got his start arranging for Motown acts. His career took him to Hollywood in 1972 where he still arranges and orchestrates music for film and television. He co-orchestrated and arranged Randy Newman's song *If I Didn't Have You* for the animated film *Monsters, Inc.* In 2001, this piece won an Academy Award. Hearshen has also composed several large works for band. His four movement *Symphony on Themes of John Philip Sousa* was nominated for the 1997 Pulitzer Prize in music.

The Danish Bouquet is dedicated to the life and work of one of the bands world's greatest proponents and pioneers, Frederick Fennell. Fennell is credited with creation of the first wind ensemble in 1952 at the Eastman School of Music. He worked tirelessly to convince composers to write for his new group and thereby greatly expanded the repertoire. He is also known for his important work with bands in Japan, most notably the Tokyo Kosei Wind Orchestra, as well as his numerous fine recordings of band literature. Frederick Fennell died in 2004. Hearshen loosely based the structure and

tempi of *The Danish Bouquet* on Percy Grainger's monumental band work, *Lincolnshire Posy*. The melodies of this piece are drawn from several folk songs common to Denmark

***Commando March* by
Samuel Barber (1910 – 1981)**

Samuel Barber was among the most successful American composers of the twentieth century. His compositions include works for orchestras and chamber ensembles, ballets, operas, choral and vocal pieces as well as *Commando March*, his one original work for the band medium. He also transcribed some of his orchestral works for band, including *Symphony No. 1*. Barber is perhaps best known for his popular *Adagio for Strings*, taken from his first string quartet.

Commando March was composed during World War II for the United States Army Air Corps (now the Air Force). Barber was serving in the Air Corps at the time, and was ordered to write a march which contained quarter-tones to symbolize the progressiveness and modernity of the Air Corps. Barber, however, ignored this requirement and remained true to his own compositional style. The work was premiered in Atlantic City in 1943 and has remained a popular part of the band repertoire.

Symphonic Band
Spring 2007
(Listed alphabetically)

FLUTES

Edgar Coronado
Audrey Flores
Rene Garcia
Pearl Holguin
Veronica Parra
Jaclyn Perez
Jessica Rodriguez
Cecilia Sotelo

OBOES

Denise Soto
Alison Valles

BASSOONS

Sandra Enriquez
Candice Sierra

CLARINETS

Edna Flores
Jacob Galindo
Cindy Garcia
Jessica Gutierrez
Albert Hernandez
Joshua Hernandez
Chelse Malone
Esther Martinez
Javier Ontiveros
Stephanie Puentes
Nora Regalado
Luis Sanchez
Francis Zalace

BASS CLARINETS

Ryan Garfield
Jazmine Hawes
Irma Lopez
Laura Rodriguez

ALTO SAXOPHONES

Belem Lopez
Michelle Ramos
Dushaun Williams

TENOR

SAXOPHONES

Lourdes Galindo
Freddie Gates
Michael Juarez
Omar Saad
Scott Weir

BARITONE

SAXOPHONE

Adrian Valdez

TRUMPETS

Michael Acosta
Allyssa Amaya
Julian A. Bonilla, Jr.
Joel Calderon
Jessica Camacho
Salvador Chavez
John Dixon
Juan Gonzalez
Matthew Nava
Paola Ornelas
Alejandro Ramirez
Jesus Sambrano

HORNS

Michael Bejarano
Victor Contreras
Catherine Pena
Frank Porras
Beatriz Prieto

TROMBONES

Michael Barron
Adam Castaneda
Elizabeth Castaneda
Sergio De Anda
Moses Leos
Jose Morales
Matt Nickles
Antonio Rodriguez
Alicia Yniguez

EUPHONIUMS

Jonah Bahta
Crystal Gallegos
Eric Gonzales
Melissa Zamarripa

TUBAS

Jose Betancourt
Padilla Christopher
Ruben Enriquez
Paul Juarez
Raul Morales
Christian Salas

PERCUSSION

Barbara Guadarrama
Abigail Lopez
Ski Noriega
Edward Provencio
Jose Soto
John Vasquez

University Wind Symphony
Spring 2007

PICCOLO
Megan Valles

FLUTE
Jennifer Rodriguez
Raul Chavirra
Claudia Solis
Krystal Mata

ENGLISH HORN
Chris Waide

OBOE
Jacob Salas
Alison Valles

Eb CLARINET
Albert Hernandez

CLARINET
Rebeca Rosales (co-principal)
Steve Montez (co-principal)
Mayra Gandara
Tracy Gonzalez
Andrea Godinez
Ruth Lopez
Luis Sanchez
Reyna Flores

BASS CLARINET
Antonio Alcantar

CONTRA-BASS CLARINET
Josh Hernandez

BASSOON
Mike Hernandez
Wesley Hovis

SAXOPHONE
Carlos Colon
Abel Gandara
Edder Cobos
Ricky Vilardel

FRENCH HORN

Nathan Eby
Virginia Morales
Daniel Natividad
Marcus Brown
Cathy Perez
Anna Wolfinger
Justin Cardenez

TRUMPET

Becky Rodriguez
Priscilla Esparza
Danny Reyes

Juan Gonzalez
Robert Aguinaga
Steve Hernandez

EUPHONIUM

Eric Gonzalez
Beto Perez
Rick Rodriguez

TROMBONE

Cassie Hammond
Ishmael Reyes
Katsuya Morishita

TUBA

Jaime Reza
James Cordova
Porfirio Diaz

STRING BASS

Jonah Bahta

PERCUSSION

Frank Romos
Dan Hunt
Danny Vega
Nick Ochoa
Justin Conrow
Luis Armendariz
Jesus Diaz (alternate)

STRING BASS

Jesus Apodaca
Jonah Bahta