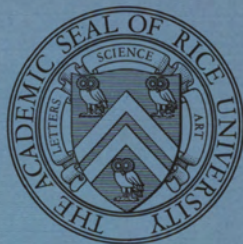


RICE UNIVERSITY

the
Shepherd
School
of Music



COMPOSERS' CONCERT

*Works by composition students from
The Shepherd School of Music*

*Friday, March 25, 1988
8:00 p.m. in the
Shepherd School Recital Hall*

PROGRAM

Radio Galaxies (1981)
for electronic tape

Scott Gehman
(b. 1957)

Canons (1987)
for flute and cello

Mark Bradshaw
(b. 1964)

Sereno
Mesto
Instantemente
Dolce
Semplice

Lisa Hardaway, flute
Laurie Reisig-Riss, cello

Flames (1988)
for solo flute

Ann Rivers Witherspoon
(b. 1948)

September Payne, flute

INTERMISSION

Soliloquy (1982)
for unaccompanied cello

Kerry Nelson Jones
(b. 1959)

Laurie Reisig-Riss, cello

A Woman's Mirror (1988)
for chamber ensemble and voice

Ann Rivers Witherspoon

"The Wanderer"
"For Alice Walker"
"poem for heaven"

Monica Vaughan, soprano

Ilse Maier, flute
Rubena Buerger, oboe
Susan Moore, clarinet
Jan Harper, bassoon
David Colson, conductor

Rodica Dancea, violin I
Mihaela Dancea, violin II
Sara Emberton, cello
Anne Amador, piano

PROGRAM NOTES

Radio Galaxies Scott Gehman

"I composed Radio Galaxies in the spring of 1981. I owe much of the inspiration for the work to Dr. Arthur Gottschalk, whose tape piece, Inner Voyage, influenced the form and motivic choices of my composition. Radio Galaxies begins with pink noise filtered and modulated by various means; as the piece progresses, pulses of different strengths and tempo are added. After the first climax, I introduce sounds that strongly contrast the opening's low-pitched, undulating sounds. These tones gradually combine with the motives of the beginning to form the second climax. The composition ends with a transformation of the sounds of both parts. I produced the tape in the Shepherd School's Electronic Music Studio using a Wavemaker synthesizer, 2 and 4-track tape recorders, and DBX noise reduction."

Canons Mark Bradshaw

"My father asked me if I would write something for him that he could listen to while he sat on the back porch and looked at the stars in the night sky. He also requested flute and cello. It was obvious that these should be canons."

Flames Ann Rivers Witherspoon

Flames is premiered tonight by flutist September Payne. The virtuosity of the piece flows from its fast, sweeping motions which create unpredictable and exciting shapes of sound as well as its use of special effects. Two voices of sound are achieved with the performer humming a note underneath the note played on the flute. In addition to exploring the flickering qualities of flames, the piece projects steady, mesmerizing beauty of candlelight undisturbed by the wind.

The pitches are tightly based on a pitch set stated at the beginning. This pitch set is then manipulated to represent each aspect of the flame throughout the piece.

Flames was composed in answer to a request from flutist Marilyn Mead. The piece will be performed this spring on her Doctoral recital, the program of which will consist only of works composed during the last twenty-five years.

Soliloquy Kerry Nelson Jones

Soliloquy is a brooding, introspective work for solo cello, concerned with the contrast between violent outbursts and quiet lyricism. Programmatically, the piece follows the progression of a man's solitary response to tragedy through several episodes of rage, reflection and resignation. Soliloquy was written for James Denton, a former student at the Shepherd School.

A Woman's Mirror Ann Rivers Witherspoon

A Woman's Mirror is a song cycle using texts which address issues of concern to each of the three poets as a woman. Each attitude is reflected in the same mirror: the music of Ann Witherspoon. The texts were chosen (and the second text written) by the person who commissioned the work, soprano Monica Vaughan. Except for the fact that each text reflects an opinion of a woman, the cycle relies on the music as the unifying element. The composer found the texts to be musically stimulating because of their emotional content. The different subjects and emotions afforded the composer a wide range of musical moods.