

FACULTY RECITAL

DAVID KIRK, tuba

with

DONALD DOUCET, piano

and the

TEXAS BRASS ENSEMBLE

Darryl Bayer, trumpet

Eddie Lewis, trumpet

Benjamin Jaber, horn

Thomas Hulten, trombone

David Kirk, tuba

Stephen Hambright, percussion

Thursday, February 6, 2003

8:00 p.m.

Lillian H. Duncan Recital Hall

RICE UNIVERSITY

the
Shepherd
School
of Music

PROGRAM

*Variations on the theme of
"Judas Maccabeus" by G.F. Handel*

Ludwig van Beethoven
(1770-1827)
arr. William J. Bell

*Sonata for Bass Tuba
and Piano (2002) (Premiere)*

Arthur Gottschalk
(b. 1952)

5/8

3/4

2/4

Suite for Unaccompanied Tuba (1964)

Walter S. Hartley
(b. 1927)

Intrada: Alla marcia

Valse: Allegro non troppo

Air: Andante

Galop: Presto

INTERMISSION

Four Serious Songs, Op. 121

Johannes Brahms
(1833-1897)

1. One thing befalleth the beasts and the sons of men
2. So I returned and did consider all the oppression
done beneath the sun
3. O death, O death, how bitter, how bitter art thou
4. Though I speak with the tongues of men

Three Famous Soldiers (2002) (Premiere)

Eddie Lewis
(b. 1964)

Bigfoot Jake

Thomas Hulten
(b. 1965)

Working on Main

Gumbo Magic

Eddie Lewis

PROGRAM NOTES

Sonata for Bass Tuba and Piano Arthur Gottschalk

I have been blessed by always being associated with the finest tuba virtuosi in the land. One of my closest mentors in college was Abe Torchinsky, who persuaded me to write for tuba ensembles; indeed, my first published and recorded work was **Substructures** for ten tubas. One of my best friends in college, and after I moved to Houston, was, Warren Deck, who first introduced me to David Kirk in New York.

Many years later I have returned to the tuba by writing this Sonata. In it I try to capture what I heard and learned from the virtuoso performances of my youth: bravura technique and singing qualities that the uninitiated do not readily associate with the instrument. Unlike all my other works, I chose to use neutral movement titles and let the tuba, in this case, speak for itself.

Three Famous Soldiers Eddie Lewis

The **Three Famous Soldiers** is a Bible story about three soldiers who risked their lives to bring King David a drink of water from a well in Bethlehem (while it was occupied by the Philistines). When they gave him the water, he poured it out as an offering to the Lord and said that drinking that water would be like drinking the blood of those who risked their lives to get it.

Bigfoot Jake Thomas Hulten

Bigfoot Jake was composed for Jakob Hulten. As an infant, Jakob was blessed with extraordinarily big feet. He has since grown into them, but still loves to dance to swinging dixieland.

Working on Main Thomas Hulten

Houston's South Main. Looking for a good time? This song suggests an explicit story line.

Gumbo Magic Eddie Lewis

Gumbo Magic was intended as a tuba feature with a little bit of a twist. The tuba part is most certainly the more virtuosic part in the composition, but he never plays the main melody of the tune. The idea was partly inspired by the music of the Dirty Dozen Brass Band out of New Orleans. Another distinguishing aspect is that the form is based on the traditional three-part "salsa form," the three parts being the Verse, the Mortuno, and the Mambo.

— Notes by the respective composers

BIOGRAPHIES

DAVID KIRK is in his twenty-first season as Principal Tubist of the Houston Symphony, serving on the Shepherd School of Music faculty during the same period. He was selected for these positions during his final year of undergraduate studies at the Juilliard School, commencing professional duties within two weeks of graduation. At the Shepherd School, he is presently an Associate Professor, where his responsibilities include teaching private lessons, holding master classes, and conducting the orchestral brass repertoire class. He served on the faculty of the University of Houston's Moores School of Music from 1989-93, and he presently serves on the faculty of the Texas Music Festival and the American Festival for the Arts. As a pedagogue, Mr. Kirk enjoys a national reputation as an effective teacher of musicianship and a natural approach to wind playing. He has given master classes at the New England Conservatory, Cincinnati Conservatory, Cleveland Institute, New World Symphony, and in Japan.

He has been a guest performer with the Grand Teton Festival Orchestra and the symphonies of San Antonio, Chicago, and Boston. He has appeared with the Houston Symphony as a soloist, most recently in 1998 for performances of Vaughan Williams' **Concerto for Bass Tuba and Orchestra**. Kirk maintains a lively performance schedule, giving solo recitals and making appearances with chamber groups in addition to his performances with the Symphony. He has recorded Leroy Osmon's **Concert Etudes for Solo Tuba** for Mark Custom Recordings.

DONALD DOUCET studied piano at the University of Houston with Robert Brownlee and accompanying at the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music with Kenneth Griffiths. From 1990 to 2002 he was Staff Accompanist at the Shepherd School of Music. He is currently Staff Accompanist at San Jacinto College.

The TEXAS BRASS ENSEMBLE is dedicated to bringing brass music of many styles to the public. In addition to performing and recording new works by Texas composers, the Texas Brass Ensemble maintains a library and repertoire of music representing 500 years of brass ensemble literature.



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