

University of Richmond

UR Scholarship Repository

Music Department Concert Programs

Music

2-17-1987

Currents

Department of Music, University of Richmond

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarship.richmond.edu/all-music-programs>



Part of the [Music Performance Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Department of Music, University of Richmond, "Currents" (1987). *Music Department Concert Programs*. 1098.

<https://scholarship.richmond.edu/all-music-programs/1098>

This Program is brought to you for free and open access by the Music at UR Scholarship Repository. It has been accepted for inclusion in Music Department Concert Programs by an authorized administrator of UR Scholarship Repository. For more information, please contact scholarshiprepository@richmond.edu.

The Department of Music at the
University of Richmond
Presents

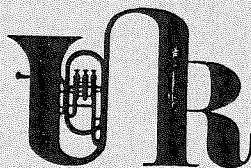
CURRENTS

The Resident Ensemble for New Music at the
University of Richmond

Fred Cohen, Music Director

February 17, 1987
8:15 PM
North Court Recital Hall

Next: Monmouth College Trio
March 13, 1987, 8:15 PM
North Court Recital Hall



Concertino a Tre (1946)

Ingolf Dahl
(1912-1970)

David Niethamer* clarinet
Helen Coulson* violin
William Comita* cello

Studies for Trumpet and Computer (1975) Dexter Morrill

1. Hocket (b. 1938)
2. Rotations
3. Blues
4. Cadenza

Michael Davison trumpet

The Birth of Euphrosyne (1983)

Joel Suben
(b. 1946)

Patricia Werrell* flute
David Niethamer* clarinet
Helen Coulson* violin
William Comita* cello

Intermission

Vermont Counterpoint (1982)

Steve Reich
(b. 1936)

Patricia Werrell* flutes

Chamber Symphony (1979)

Ellen Taaffe Zwilich
(b. 1939)

Patricia Werrell* flute
David Niethamer* clarinet
Helen Coulson* violin
Peter Guroff viola
William Comita* cello
Phyllis West piano
Fred Cohen conductor

*Member Roxbury Chamber Players

Program Notes

Concertino a Tre

Ingolf Dahl

An American composer of Swedish extraction, Ingolf Dahl led an extremely productive musical life. He was active as a composer and conductor of new music, as an accomplished pianist, and as an educator, serving on the faculty of the University of Southern California for twenty-five years. Dahl was a close friend of Stravinsky: included in his output is the two-piano reduction of Danses Concertantes.

The Concertino a Tre is an elegant and attractive example of neoclassism. The idiom is based on traditional harmony refreshed by added notes and vibrant rhythms, giving the work a "neobaroque" effect. The form is divided along traditional lines: fast-slow-fast.

Studies for Trumpet and Computer

Dexter Morrill

The studies were composed in 1974-75 for trumpeter Marice Stith. The stereo tape was produced at the Colgate University Computer Center, using the digital to analog converter built by Joseph Zingheim of Stanford University. All of the sounds on the tape were produced in digital form and then converted to a final audio version.

An important feature of the studies is the relationship between the performing trumpet sound and the brass-like sounds on the tape. At moments they are meant to be indistinguishable. All of the sounds on the tape were programmed using a single frequency modulation algorithm that can be used to simulate real instrument tones. This technique was developed by John Chowning.

Dexter Morrill is Professor of Music at Colgate University and one of the pioneers of computer music techniques. His work includes a commission from Stan Getz and a forthcoming commission from Wynton Marsalis.

The Birth of Euphrosyne

Joel Suben

John Milton's poem, L'Allegro, provides the source material for the The Birth of Euphrosyne. In his poem Milton refers to Euphrosyne, the Goddess of Mirth. Suben's composition is a modern example of program music. Each of the five sections of the work's single movement refers to a line of the Milton poem. Unlike a tone poem, the music does not try to portray the story of Euphrosyne. Rather, references to the poem are meant to evoke the poem's atmosphere. "I feel that the piece can be listened to and judged as an instrumental composition."

Joel Suben is President of the APNM, a music publication concern. He is music director of four orchestras, including the College of William and Mary.

Vermont Counterpoint

Steve Reich

Vermont Counterpoint is scored for three alto flutes, three flutes, and three piccolos, plus two solo lines in each of which the soloist plays, one at a time, all three instruments. In this performance the nine ensemble parts plus one solo part are recorded, allowing the soloist to play the "live" solo line on-stage.

This work was commissioned by flutist Ransom Wilson. At the end of the composition process, Reich invited Wilson to his summer residence in Vermont where they collaborated for several days, tightening up the piece and choosing a title. Two years later Reich composed a companion piece for eleven clarinets entitled New York Counterpoint.

Chamber Symphony

Ellen Taaffe Zwilich

New York composer Ellen Zwilich rose to prominence when her Symphony No. 1 was awarded the Pulitzer Prize in 1983. She received formal training in composition from Roger Sessions and Elliott Carter, and is an accomplished violinist. Mrs. Zwilich is one of the most active composers in music today, working in

both symphonic and chamber music genres. Recent works include a Piano Concerto (1985) and the Concerto Grosso 1985 based on Handel's Sonata in D for violin and continuo.

The Chamber Symphony was written directly after the sudden death of Mrs. Zwilich's husband, the violinist Peter Zwilich. The work reflects the poignancy suffered at his passing. The work is in one movement.

CURRENTS was founded in fall 1986 and is sponsored by the University of Richmond. The personnel of CURRENTS are full-time and adjunct faculty at the University of Richmond, members of the Roxbury Chamber Players, professional musicians in the Richmond area, and students at the University. It is the goal of CURRENTS to offer fresh, spirited, innovative programming of music of the 20th Century to areas throughout Virginia. The next CURRENTS concert will be Sunday, April 12. Featured on the program will be Arnold Schoenberg's Pierrot lunare, with soprano soloist Claudia Stevens.

Ushers are Members of the University Lake Society