UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN - EAU CLAIRE DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC

presents

THE SYMPHONY BAND DONALD S. GEORGE, Conductor

With

GUEST COMPOSER-CONDUCTOR VINCENT PERSICHETTI

Sunday, April 1, 1979 4:00 p.m.

Gantner Concert Hall

PRESENTED AS PART OF THE 1979 CONTEMPORARY
MUSIC SYMPOSIUM

SLAVA! A Concert Overture

Leonard Bernstein

When Mstislav Rostropovich ("Slava" to his friends) invited Bernstein to help him launch his inaugural concerts as Music Director of the National Symphony Orchestra, he also asked him to write a rousing new opening piece for the festivities. This Overture, is the result, and the world premiere took place on October 11, 1977 with Rostropovich conducting his orchestra at the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, D.C.

The first theme of SLAVA: is a vaudevillian razz-ma-tazz tune filled with side-slipping modulations and sliding trombones. Theme two, which prominently features the electric guitar, is a canonic tune in 7/8 time. A very brief kind of development section follows, after which the two themes recur in reverse order. Near the end they are combined with a quotation (proclaimed by the ubiquitous trombones) from the 'Coronation Scene' of Moussorgsky's Boris Goudonov, where the chorus sings the Russian word "slava!" meaning "glory!" In this way, of course, the composer is paying an extra four-bar homage to his friend Slava Rostropovich, to whom this Overture is fondly dedicated.

SYMPHONIC TRILOGY

Donald J. Young

1. Allegro

2. Con Abandono

3. Allegro risoluto

Premier Performance

Symphonic Trilogy is the culmination of a project started in 1978 at the request of Dr. Donald S. George, conductor of the UW-EC Symphonic Band. After earlier UW-EC performances of Mr. Young's Patmos and Sign of the Nicolaitans, (each one movement works a 6 minute duration) both Dr. George and the composer felt that a three movement piece of longer length would be beneficial.

Written especially with the UW-EC Band in mind, the composition calls for mature soloists, precise execution in tutti passages, and a careful balancing of accompanying harmonies.

SCHERZO A LA RUSSE

Igor Stravinsky

"Scherzo a la Russe" was composed in 1944 at the request of Paul Whiteman, the initiator of 'symphonic jazz' which produced works like Gershwin's Rhapsody in Blue. The Scherzo, although composed for a symphonic jazz orchestra, does not possess the intrinsic qualities of jazz. The Scherzo adheres to the classic form of the symphonic scherzo with two Trios. The themes of the two Trios are reminiscent of the "Russian' motifs of the Sonata for two pianos, and again point to Stravinsky's nostalgia for his native land. Thad Marciniak has made the arrangement for concert band.

DIVERTIMENTO FOR BAND

Vincent Persichetti

I. Prologue II. Song III. Dance

IV. Burlesque V. Soliloguy VI. March

Conducted by the Composer

The "Divertimento for Band" is exactly what its name implies - a lively bit of musical entertainment, in which rhythmic and contrapuntal savoir faire is blended neatly with tongue-in-cheek humor and lyrical nostalgia.

INTERMISSION

THE BLACK HORSE TROOP - MARCH

John Philip Sousa

"The Black Horse Troop" was completed December 30th, 1924. It was played for the first time about ten months later on October 17, 1925, at a concert of the Sousa Band in the Public Auditorium, Cleveland, Ohio.

America's leading Sousa scholar, Paul E. Bierley, writes in his book: John Philip Sousa, A Descriptive Catalog of His Works (University of Illinois, 1973) that the March King enjoyed a long relationship to the men and horses of Cleveland's Ohio National Guard Cavalry, known as Troop A. Sousa was, himself, a devoted horseman. Once again he drew upon some special rhythmic resource when the march was for horses and riders; once again his special comprehension of the thrilling spectacle of regimental movement produced a compelling musical experience for both the player and the listener, commanding our particular awareness of his use of the trumpets and drums at various dynamic levels.

TWO CONTRASTS FOR WINDS AND PERCUSSION

Ivar Lunde, Jr.

Premier Performance Conducted by the Composer

Two Contrasts for Winds and Percussion was commissioned by Tønsberg Janitsjarkorps of Tønsberg, Norway, in honor of the band's fiftieth anniversary in 1978.

The first movement, <u>Prologue</u>, utilizes the song of Tønsberg for thematic material. The song is presented in fragments in the beginning of the movement and is not played in its entirety until the very end.

The second movement, Escapades, describes the history of the band. The fanfare glorifies the creation of the band and what follows incorporates a variety of styles representing different kinds of music played by the band over the years. Towards the end of this movement the Stein Song is introduced. Besides being the "theme song" for the band, it was used by the home front in Norway during the 2nd World War. The song is normally played in a duple meter; this version is conceived in a triple meter.

SYMPHONY No. 6 for BAND

Vincent Persichetti

I. Adagio - Allegro II. Adagio sostenuto

III. Vivace

IV. Allegretto

Conducted by the Composer

The Symphony for Band was written in 1958 on a commission from Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri. It is a mature work, admirably suited to the medium for which it was written and has become a standard work in the band's repertoire. All four movements are constructed from material heard in the first three measures of the opening movement. The Symphony is notable for its extensive use of the percussion as an integrated part of the ensemble.

UW-EC SYMPHONY BAND

DONALD S. GEORGE, CONDUCTOR

Flute Susan Bartosh *Laurie Carlson Heidi Ellefson Diane Ewan Debbie Farley Allison Grundy Julie Halvorson Jean Kapralian Dawn Nielsen Diane Pryor Jeanne Ritchie Carol Tsuchiya

Piccolo Susan Hargis

Eb Clarinet Sandy McKilligan

BbClarinet *Susan Allen Laura Dittrich Cathy Ellsworth Vicki Fiebig Karla Hatcher LuAnn Hauser Barbara Hovey Kieth Koepsel Janet Koss Jeanne LeMieux Karen Pellikka Lynn Schmidt Kris Schneider Kris Schneider Ken Hagen
Shinsuke Takahashi Jeff Schieble
Martha Waters Wayne Slowinski
Kathy Winter Susan Sullivan Kathy Winter

Oboe & English Horn Bobbi Kangas *Sue Persons

Bassoon Gay Olson Nancy Retzer *Barbara Sacher

Alto Clarinet Carol Booth *Tracey Geimer

Bass Clarinet *DeWayne Roberson Susan Schneider Karen West

Contra Bass Clarinet Tuba Mark Chytracek
Daniel Funk

Saxophone Leland Bissinger Karen Bushkie
Jane Holpering Percussion
Brian Olson Michael Al
*Ken Kunz Karen Getze Doug Rasmussen Sally Roadt

Trumpet Brad Anderson Mark Becker Betsy Brenton Tom Brown

> Horn Kathy Anderson Ann Balzer Kathy Behnke Kurt Majkowski *Mary Murray Tina Sailor Michelle Tibbets Thomas Zimmerman

Trombone Tony Forrest Don Glassel Randy Hake *Dennis McGraw James Reitz Tim Young

Euphonium William Hargrave David Hunt *Robert Ponto

David Carlson *Cliff George David Grassl

String Bass Paul Ousley

Michael Allen *Robert Gibson Chris Heywood David Pipkorn Gail Spreen Steve Wells

> Electric Guitar Phil Nelson

*Denotes principal

WIND/PERCUSSION FACULTY Louise Burky, Flute Ivar Lunde, Oboe Leo Christy, Bassoon, Clarinet Donald George, Clarinet Ruben Haugen, Saxophone Henry Mautner, Trumpet Boris Rybka, Horn Rodney Hudson, Trombone Paul Maybery, Euphonium, Ronald Keezer, Percussion