# Summer Session programs

Featuring
THE BAND MUSIC OF
P.D.Q. BACH
(1807-1742)?



Wednesday,

July 21, 1993

Gantner Concert Hall

7:30 p.m.

# Summer Session Band

Donald S. George, Conductor BUGLES AND DRUMS, March Edwin Franko Goldman

BUGLES AND DRUMS (1936) is all that its title portends--a rousing 6/8 regimental march that is a masterpiece of military music, based entirely upon the natural tones of the bugle. (Frederick Fennell)

Overture to ORPHEUS IN THE UNDERWORLD

Jacques Offenbach arr. Lawrence Odom

ORPHEUS IN THE UNDERWORLD, as interpreted by Offenbach, treats the legend of Orpheus and Eurydice with something less than classical respect. This opera bouffe has some of the best known vocal excerpts in all opera, and the overture is a staple in the repertoires of orchestras. However, when it was introduced in 1858 it was not well received. Both the music and libretto seemed created to shock the operagoing populace with the sacrilegious treatment of the Olympian gods and the discordant and surprising combinations of musical satires. Fortunately for Offenbach, the scathing reviews stimulated so much curiosity that the opera was performed 228 times to capacity audiences, closing only because the cast needed to rest. The Overture begins with a bristling fanfare, and is followed by a tender love song and then an "infernal" passage. The finale, after a fairly elaborate waltz, is the everpopular and renowned can-can. (Kios Music Co.)

## TWO PIECES BY PERCY GRAINGER

Irish Tune from County Derry I.

II. Shepherd's Hey

### SUITE FROM THE BALLET "PINEAPPLE POLL"

Sir Arthur Sullivan arr. W.J. Duthoit

I. Opening Number III. Poll's Dance

IV. II. Jasper's Dance Finale

The ballet PINEAPPLE POLL is a spoof of the Gilbert and Sullivan operettas. According to Charles MacKerras, the British conductor who composed this ballet, "The score is a patchwork quilt of tunes from most of the Gilbert and Sullivan operas. Every bar of PINEAPPLE POLL, even the short bridge passages. is taken from some opera or other." (Band Music Notes)

#### INTERMISSION

ONWARD-UPWARD, March

Edwin Franko Goldman

ONWARD-UPWARD (1931) is one of the most demanding of the Goldman marches in its requirement of unusual technical facility from the low brasses.

THE WIND BAND MUSIC OF P.D.Q. BACH (1807-1742)?
Pig-headedly, charmingly, and tastefully
edited by Professor Peter Schickele

# SIX CONTRARY DANCES (S.39)

- 1. Maestoso animoso
- 2. Daintissimo
- 3. Allegro, but not too mucho
- 4. Molto moderato
- 5. Vivace cucarace
- 6. Moving right alongo

When King Louis XVI of France was beheaded in 1793 many of his personal possesssions were burned in the streets--at least, such was the fate of the more noticeable and ostentatious of those possessions. Fortunately the autograph of P.D.Q. Bach's SIX CONTRARY DANCES, which the composer had evidently sent to the French monarch in the pathetic hope that Europe's most terpsichorean court would find some use for it, escaped immolation due to the fact that, no doubt after a cursory perusal by the King's Music Master, the score fell down behind a highboy and was not rediscovered until well into the 19th century, when a royal cleaning lady brought it to the attention of Louis Phillippe (d/b/a The Citizen King), who told her she could keep it for all he cared, whereupon the royal cleaning lady threw it back behind the highboy, in which cranny it collected royal and republican dust until a Nazi soldier ran across it during the last days of the Occupation. It was discovered by the present editor, more than three decades later, lying on a dirty basement floor next to a muddy helmet, a dusty cake of soap in the shape of the Eiffel Tower, and several filthy postcards. Nobody knows, and few care, about the circumstances surrounding the composition of this clod-bound dance suite. (Professor Peter Schickele)

# MARCH OF THE CUTE LITTLE WOOD SPRITES (S.Onsey Twosy)

P.D.Q. Bach spent the considerable bulk of his creative life in the small southern German town of Wein-am-Rhein, a town not noted for its high incidence of cultural activity. Nevertheless, its one theater, the compact and charmingly decrepit *Howdyvolkstheater*, was usually kept busy, either with appearances by touring thespian or musical groups, or with compact and charmingly decrepit productions put on by one of the local outfits.

It would be natural to assume that the title of the march under consideration was simply another example of the naive programmaticism that was part and parcel of the German early Romantic movement, but it turns out that the piece was actually commissioned by a band of cute little wood sprites, a travelling troupe of extremely small folk who played the Howdyvolkstheater in April, 1783. The Cute Little Wood Sprites, as they called themselves, asked P.D.Q. to write some entrance music for the beginning of their show, and they were so pleased with the result that after the first performance several members of the troupe, still wearing wings and halos, climbed up on top of the composer and did a jig, giving rise, incidentally, to the classic question, "How many angels can dance on a pinhead?"

The vocal passage in the eighth measure is based on the reaction of the audience to seeing the sprites come on stage; P.D.Q. was so pleased by the sound that he incorporated it into the score. A large wind and percussion ensemble is called for, but how many players actually show up is another matter. (Professor Peter Schickele)

# GRAND SERENADE FOR AN AWFUL LOT OF WINDS AND PERCUSSION

- I. Grand Entrance
- II. Simply Grand Minuet
- III. Romance in the Grand Manner
- IV. Rondo Mucho Grando

P.D.Q. Bach made several sketches for this work, on one of which he used the title SERENOODLE, but evidently he changed his mind, such as it was, when he wrote out the (continued on next page)

Grand Serenade for an Awful Lot of Winds (Cont.)

complete score. The different sketches show that he was considering various kinds of groups, instrumentationally speaking, but the combination of instruments he ended up using conforms amazingly closely to that of the modern concert band. Some slight adjustments had nevertheless to be made in preparing this performing edition, since certain instruments in the original score, such as the dill piccolo, have become obsolete, and we do not even have any information about their construction. Other instruments such as the duck call and the police whistle, although now rarely seen on the concert stage, are still readily available and have been retained; as usual, the editor has sacrificed his heroine, Authenticity, only when the gun of Necessity has been held to his head.

The GRAND SERENADE FOR AN AWFUL LOT OF WINDS AND PERCUSSION was composed on commission from Prince Fred of Wein-am-Rhein, for some sort of outdoor occasion. P.D.Q. had originally wanted to write a really big work of thirty-five or forty minutes' duration, but he agreed to make it only a third as long when Prince Fred offered to triple the fee. Soon after it was played a member of the Prince's household used the pages of the score to wrap six large sausages which were sent to Paris to be presented as a gift to Benjamin Franklin, from whom the Prince was anxious to obtain the specifications for building a glass harmonica, which Franklin had recently perfected. Eventually the manuscript made its way to an attic in Boston where the editor found it among the belongings of an 18th century Tory, in a box marked "Seditious Material."

A word of advice to the conductor: Trying to realize the composer's intentions is a waste of time, since he probably didn't have any. On the other hand, rehearsing the music well does seem advisable, so that when the inevitable critical backlash develops, the performing organization can justly claim that it wasn't their fault. (Professor Peter Schickele)

## SUMMER BAND PERSONNEL 1993

PICCOLO Danielle Boor

#### FLUTE

Kathy Anderson Andery Calkins Lori Cruciani\* Susan Olson Craig Udy Tara Walz Jayne Woodburn

OBOE
Bethany Boetcher
Carla Cockson\*

BASSOON
Gay Gilbertson\*
Julie Kosik
Janet Mann

E<sup>b</sup>CLARINET Holly Guenther

B<sup>b</sup>CLARINET
Holly Guenther
John Kai
Courtney Mueller
Brynn Nelson
Lisa Phalen
Vikas Puri
Rich Richardson
Cathy Seipel\*
Janel Trembley
Lori Wolf

ALTO SAXOPHONE Denise Graves

Bob Korwin Brian Olson\*

TENOR SAXOPHONE Kimberly Peacock

BARITONE SAXOPHONE

Mary Jo Falkofske

TRUMPET
Dan Julson
Stacey Metcalf
Chris Tank
Keith Thompson\*

Steve Wahlin Diane Woodford

HORN

Stephanie Fiskum Chad Hess\* Steven Jaeschke

TROMBONE

Chris Fulton Peter Guenther\* Eric Olson

EUPHONIUM

Joan Draxler-Ruff\*

Jim Woodford

TUBA

Morton Sebastian Boe\* Paul Joseph Budde David Houston Jordan

PERCUSSION

Brenda Francis Kumiko Irie Melissa Emily Pierce Heidi Stanton Stephen Wells\* Thomas Zeigelbauer

HARP Paula Smith

\*Denotes principal

Please respect the need for silence during performances. Our concerts and recitals are recorded. Coughing, beepers, electronic watches, careless handling of programs and other extraneous noises are serious distractions to performers and audience. The use of cameras and recording equipment cannot be permitted.