

Procession of the Nobles from "Mlada"

Nicholas Rimski-Korsak (1844-1908)

During the season of 1869-1870, the director of the Imperial Theate of St. Petersburg conceived the idea of staging an elaborate opera ballet based on a subject from the Slavic mythology. For this work to be known as Mlada, he commissioned music from the Russian school of composition. The project was never realized, however, and most the music which the composers have written found its way into other of their works. Not until twenty years later did Rimsky-Korsakov decide to use the subject for an opera ballet of his own. His Mlada was begun in 1889, and produced at the Marinski Theater in 1892. This arrangement for Concert Band is done by Erik Leidzen.

(Richard Franko Goldman

Do Not Go Gentle Into that Good Night

Elliot Del Borg (1938-

The Dylan Thomas poem was the motivation for this musical composition. While not a programmatic depiction of the poem, the work attempts to recreate the essence of the poem in sound. The opening motive, representative of the life force, permeates much of the work. An Ivesian use of sound layers - in the form of polytonathymns - calls to mind the struggles and persistence of the human spirit and its refusal to "go gentle." The work closes with a strosense of affirmation and continuance. (Elliot Del Borge

Rejouissance

James Curnov (1948-

The word "rejouissance" is a French word meaning enjoyment or make happy. In English it is "rejoicing". In music of the 17th and 18th centuries, the term was used to denote a short composition of a lively or playful nature, which brings enjoyment to the listener. This Fantasia (a composition in which "free flight of fancy" prevail over contemporary conventions of form or style) is based on Martin Luther's "Ein Feste Burg". (James Curnow)

The Glory of the Yankee Navy-March

John Philip Sousa (1854–1932)

"The Glory of the Yankee Navy" was Sousa's 70th March, and the only one he wrote in 1909. Like its predecessor, "The Fairest of the Fair", reveals his deep affection for the theatre pit which hung with him for most of his life. His transformation of the march from the theatre pit and parade ground to the stage of those outdoor amphitheaters and indoor auditoriums where his band reigned supreme was so complete by this time that the public may not even have been aware that many of the pieces he was writing for them in march form had become entertainly "symphonic." Sousa wrote six marches with titles that laud the U.S. Navy and five for the Marine Corps, his to units of service as a military bandmaster. "The Glory of the Yankee Navy" was composed as Sousa's single contribution to the score of a musical comedy, The Yankee Girl; he signed the score "11 Sep. 1909 Montreal."

Chromatic Galop

Franz Liszt (1811-1886)

Chromatic Galop is a band transcription "Grand Galop Chromatique" - a favorite piano recital piece composed by Franz Liszt in 1838. It was dedicated to Count Rudolph Apponyi and published in the year of its composition. The theme is highly chromatic and is used in different ways - variations in melody and harmony and also in counterpoint with diatonic themes. (Arthur Frackenpohl)

Pavane

Gabriel Faure (1845-1924)

The "Pavane" which originated as a court dance of the early 16th century, is probably of Spanish origin. It was executed in slow, solemn movements and with dignified gestures. The international adoption of the Spanish pavane as the ceremonial court dance is a characteristic symptom of the shift in cultural leadership which took place around 1500. After 1600 the pavane was adapted into the German suite in which it serves as a slow introductory movement. Faure and Ravel established themselves as eloquent French masters of the pavane style of composition. (Harvard Dictionary)

Satiric Dances

Norman Dello Joio (1913-)

Satiric Dances for a Comedy by Aristophanes was commissioned by the town of Concord, Massachusetts as a tangible recognition of the Bicentennial of April 18, 1775. The work for band is a version of music written for a production of a comedy by Aristophanes performed in Boston in 1974 by the Theatre Department of the School of the Arts of Boston University, where the composer formerly held the position of Dean.

Esprit De Corps

Robert Jager (1939-)

Esprit De Corps was commissioned by the United States Marine Band.
Based on "The Marines' Hymn", Esprit De Corps is a kind of fantasymarch, as well as a tribute to the United States Marine Band. It is also the composer's salute to the Marine Corps in general. Full of energy and drama, the composition has its lighter moments (for example, the quasi-waltz in the middle of the piece). (Robert Jager)

UWEC CONCERT BAND PERSONNEL

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