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Concerto Aria and The Planets

Glenn Block Director/Conductor
Illinois State University

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Music Department
Illinois State University

Illinois State University
Symphony Orchestra

Glenn Block
Music Director and Conductor

Concerto/Aria
and
The Planets

Braden Auditorium
Sunday Afternoon
March 5, 2000
3:00 PM

The eighty-seventh program of the 1999-2000 Season.

PROGRAM

- Ballade for Flute and Orchestra (1939) Frank Martin
(1890-1974)
Annie D'Amico, *flute* *
- Kol Nidrei, (Adagio on Hebrew Melodies) (1881) Max Bruch
(1836-1920)
Charles Stephan, *cello* *
- from *La Bohème* (1894-95) Giacomo Puccini
Donde lieta (1858-1924)
Kristin White, *soprano* *
- Concerto for Tuba and Orchestra (1954) Ralph Vaughan Williams
Finale: Rondo alla tedesca (1872-1958)
Joey Celmer, *tuba* *
- Concerto in D Major for the Left Hand (1929-30) Maurice Ravel
(1875-1937)
Robert Kuba, *piano* *

* Winners of ISU 2000 Concerto-Aria Competition

INTERMISSION

- The Planets* (1914-16) Gustav Holst
(1874-1934)
Mars, the Bringer of War
Venus, the Bringer of Peace
Mercury, the Winged Messenger
Jupiter, the Bringer of Jollity
Saturn, the Bringer of Old Age
Uranus, the Magician
Neptune, the Mystic

Assisted by the Women of the
Concert Choir and Treble Choir

Dr. James Major, *director*
Dr. Kathleen Keenan-Takagi, *director*
Alysia Connell, *assistant director*

Program Notes

In early 1914, Gustav Holst began a journey to the stars. Many years before the Apollo moon landing or any other such known space mission, Holst was already beginning the process of taking listeners to other worlds. Prophetically, his first movement -- *Mars, the Bringer of War* -- was completed as the First World War commenced. Holst's visions of what other worlds looked like and what music could portray these worlds are to this day very poignant and recognized.

Holst sub-titled each of the movements to re-affirm the astrological significance of each planet. He wanted to have no confusion or correlation between his work and mythology or Greek deities.

This seven-movement work was to be his largest composition. The scope of this work was as large or even larger than works of his contemporaries: Richard Strauss, Gustav Mahler and Richard Wagner. His composition calls for extensive woodwind and brass instrumentation as well as a large battery of percussion. Many rarely used instruments are added to these sections -- bass flute, English horn, bass clarinet, contra-bassoon, and euphonium.

On the twentieth anniversary of Holst's death, Vaughan-Williams described *The Planets* as an equilibrium of Holst's musical nature -- the melodic and the mystic. (Notes by Brian Dollinger)

Biographies

Annie D'Amico is currently a junior music therapy major at Illinois State University. She graduated from Willowbrook High School in Villa Park, IL. She has had a varied musical experience thus far at I.S.U., performing with the Wind Symphony as well as the Chamber Winds. Along with her ensemble experiences, Ms. D'Amico enjoys performing with fellow flautists in flute quartets and ensembles. Ms. D'Amico has studied with Michelle Lewis, Susan Phelps and is currently a member of the flute studio of Dr. Kimberly McCoul-Risinger.

Kristin White is currently a senior at Illinois State University. Ms. White has had an extensive and varied background in vocal performance with appearances ranging from Chicago Bulls' games singing the National Anthem to lead operatic roles at I.S.U. Ms. White has been awarded various honors including a first-place honor from the National Association of Teachers of Singing. She has been a member of I.S.U.'s University Choir, Concert Choir as well as Madrigal Singers under the direction of Dr. James Major. Ms. White's operatic experiences include roles as Musetta in *La Bohème*, the Mother in *Amahl and the Night Visitors*, and last year's performances of Mozart's *The Magic Flute*. Ms. White will be singing the lead role in the upcoming performance of Purcell's *Dido and Aeneas* at I.S.U. on March 31.

Charles Stephan is a graduate student in cello performance at Illinois State University, and will be completing the Masters in Music this spring. A graduate of the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh where he studied with Dr. David Cowley. Mr. Stephan is active in area orchestras in central Illinois, and is on the faculty of the preparatory department at Illinois Wesleyan University. He is a member of the studio of Professor Greg Hamilton.

Illinois State University Symphony Orchestra

Glenn Block, *conductor*

Brian R Dollinger, *assistant conductor*

Kimberly Martin, *manager*

Violin I

Al Bartosik, *concertmaster*
Anne Polishinski
Derek Efimetz
Jennifer Louie
Wenyan Dong
Jennifer Vestuto
Julia Edwards

Violin II

Stephanie Schmidtgal, *principal*
Michelle Warber
Elizabeth Hunt
Keith Larkowski
Amber Nelson
Nathan Wells

Viola

Dana Schwartz, *principal*
Mandy DeSutter
Mona Seghatoleslami
Julie Brown
Emily Riehl

Cello

Ha-Young Kim, *principal*
Jim Pesek
Charley Davenport
Kimberly Martin
Charles Stephan
Nicole Novak

Bass

Brian R Dollinger, *principal*
Grant Souder
Eric Krell
Jeff Johnson
Zach Ginder
Samantha Owens

Percussion

Jeff Mater, *principal*
Bill Cuthbert, *assistant principal*
Nick Anderson
Bill Roberts

Keyboard

Joey Celmer, *principal*

Saxophone

Mark Nowakowski

Flute

Stacey Lusk, *principal*
Teryn True
Amy Perschall, *piccolo*
Kori McGartland, *Piccolo/bass*

Oboe

Jennifer Schraml, *principal*
Casi Anderson
Joy Fischer, *English horn*

Clarinet

Debi Flowers, *principal*
Denise Yonker
Sally Friedrich
Erik Tomlin, *bass clarinet*

Bassoon

Scott Reynolds, *principal*
Stephanie Fink
Jonathan Vota
Gina Pehlke, *contra-bassoon*

Horn

Jennifer Herron, *principal*
Beth Lenz, *assistant*
Keri Herron
Peter Dahlstrom
Shay Einhorn
Tom C. Weber
Molly Gholson

Trumpet

Daren Wilkes, *principal*
Bill Withem
Jennifer Meyer
Rebecca Stekl

Trombone

Erich Deptolla, *principal*
S. Michael Silder
B. John Bredemeier
Tony Hernandez, *euphonium*

Tuba

Ryan McCrone
Brian Farber

Harp

Aimee Showers, *principal*
Meghann Moklos

Joey Celmer is a senior tuba performance major at Illinois State University. A graduate of Fremd High School in Palatine, Illinois, Mr. Celmer was selected as a member of the Honors Band at the Illinois Music Educators Association All-State Convention during both his junior and senior years of high school. Mr. Celmer began studies at Illinois State with Professor Ed Livingston. Mr. Celmer has been chosen as an alternate for the All-American Band at Walt Disney World as well as performing with the Busch Gardens Boogie Band in Virginia Beach. Mr. Celmer has performed with various university ensembles as well as the Heartland Philharmonic and the Chicago Youth Symphony. He is currently applying to continue graduate studies at the University of Indiana. He is currently a member of the studio of Professor David Zerkel.

Robert Kuba is currently a graduate performance major student at Illinois State University. Mr. Kuba began formal training on the piano at the age of eight in his homeland of Hungary. At the age of fourteen, he went to study at the Bela Bartok Secondary Music School. When he turned eighteen, he moved on with his training to the Liszt Ferenc Music Teacher's Training College where he received his certification as piano teacher and chamber artist (1998). Since beginning studies of the piano, Mr. Kuba has participated in numerous competitions in Hungary. In 1992, he received an Honorary Mention at the Béa Bartók Piano Competition. Upon graduation from Illinois State, Mr. Kuba plans to continue his education at the doctoral level. Mr. Kuba has studied with Gizella Polyak, Mariann Abraham, Agnes Vigh, Annamaria Krause-Bodoky and is currently a member of the piano studio of Professor Gellert Modos.

Glenn Block is the director of orchestras and opera at Illinois State University. An active guest conductor, he is also one of the most active all-state orchestra conductors, having conducted in more than 42 states, Canada, South America, and throughout Europe. He serves as music director of the Youth Symphony of Kansas City, one of the country's largest and most extensive youth symphony programs. The Youth Symphony of Kansas City enjoys a national and international reputation with performances and tours to Spain (1992), the Banff (Canada) International Festival of Youth Orchestras (1996) and Carnegie Hall (1997). In the summer of 2000, the Youth Symphony of Kansas City has been invited to be the Festival Orchestra in residence at the Western Slopes Music Festival in Crested Butte, Colorado for two weeks in June. Following that residency, the Youth Symphony will travel to northern Italy to be the Festival Orchestra at a series of festivals in Milan and Florence. Dr. Block is a widely recognized teacher of conducting and during the summers is director of the nationally recognized **Conductors Studio** conducting workshop held on the Illinois State campus each August. Dr. Block also serves as the music director of the Sangamon Valley Youth Symphony in Springfield, Illinois.

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