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## The Dutch Tuba: The Solo Tuba Works of Jan Koetsier

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*Illinois State University*

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Illinois State University

School of Music

THE DUTCH TUBA:  
The Solo Tuba Works of Jan Koetsier  
Michael Forbes, *Tuba*

with

The Illinois State University Chamber Orchestra  
& the Illinois State Graduate Tuba Quartet

with additional guests:

Michelle Vought, *Soprano*  
And Karen Collier, *Violin & Piano*

Center for the Performing Arts

April 20, 2004

Tuesday Evening

8:00 p.m.

This is the one hundred and fifty-first program of the 2003-2004 season.

Program

All Works by Jan Koetsier (born 1911)

Concertino, Op. 77 (1978)

Allegro con brio  
Andante cantabile  
Rondo Bavarese

Illinois State University Chamber Orchestra

Galgenlieder, Op. 129 (1992)

Das Geburtslied  
Das Hemmed  
Die Zwei Wurzeln  
Die Luft  
Fisches Nachtgesang  
Igel und Agel  
Die beiden Esel  
Das Gebet

Michelle Vought, *soprano*

~ Intermission ~

Sonatina, Op. 57 (1977)

Allegro  
Tempo di minuetto  
Allegro moderato

Karen Collier, *piano*

Unterkangner Ländler, Op. 87, No. 2 (1981)

Allegro maestoso  
Moderato  
Allegro  
Allegro molto  
Andantino grazioso  
Come prima

Karen Collier, *violin*

Wolkenschatten, Op. 136 (1993)

Tranquillo  
Presto—Meno Mosso  
Allegretto giocoso

Graduate Tuba Quartet  
Griffin James & Meredith Melvin, *euphonium*  
Eric Jordan, *tuba*

Translation for Galgenlieder provided by Maria Staeblein

"Gallows-Songs"

The Birth-Song

A little child is filling its little diapers today. But around the house, oh horrors, mean winds are blowing. 2. "It's a girl!" cried out Hede, and pinched it on its little calf." But on the house, oh horrors, all the little shutters are swinging. 3. A little owl moved its little beak a long the little window sill. Someone called into the house, "Oh, horrors! Do you hear the silver bells on the little horses drawing the hearse?" 4. A little worm in a little storm flies down from a little tower. It cries, "Oh horrors, it is raining outside, please give me a little umbrella." 5. Oh little child you are still filling your little diapers today. But if you are going out in a long dress [of an adult], you will be a little tramp.

The Shirt

Do you know the lonely shirt? The one who wore it is completely destroyed! It gabbles and flaps in the wind. It cries like a small child. That's the lonely shirt.

The Two Roots

Two fir roots big and old are talking in the forest. What rustles in the treetops is discussed down here. An old squirrel is sitting here and knitting socks for the two. The one says "Knig," the other "Knag." That's enough for one day.

The Air

The air was once close to dying. "Help me, my father in heaven," she called, with a very gloomy look, "I will get dumb, I will get fat. You have advice for everything. Send me on a trip to a spa; sour milk is also recommended. If not, I'll send for the devil!" The man, who was afraid to disgrace himself, invented the sound massage. Since then there is a world that cries while the air is truly thriving.

The Night Song of the Fish

("...")

Hedge and Hog

Hedge [a hedgehog] sat on a stone and blew on one of his spines, schalmeiala, schalmeialue! Then his darling Hog came and went schnigel-schnagel to his melodies. The animal blew away at its flute shirt [until its spines were all gone]. "You look so terribly strange!" Darling Hog went to the neighbor. Oh! Hedge has been washed from the stream to the pond.

The Two Donkeys

A sinister donkey once said to his spouse: "I am so stupid, you are so stupid; we want to go to die. Come!" But as it more frequently happens, the two stayed alive joyfully.

The Prayer

The little roe deers are praying at night. Be careful! [It is] 8:30! 9:30! 10:30! 11:30! 12! The little roe deers are praying at night. Be careful! They are curling their little toes.

Chamber Orchestra

Glenn Block, *conductor*

Emily Morgan  
Mark Ericksen  
Jennifer Kluchenek

Xavier Kimble  
Christopher Kelts  
Pamela Kaufman

Brian Bromberg  
Kim Wedesky  
Timothy Douglass



**Jan Koetsier** was born in Amsterdam on April 14, 1911. From 1927 to 1934 he studied at the *Musikhochschule* in Berlin. He was a conductor in Lübeck and Berlin before he became assistant conductor of the Amsterdam *Concertgebouw Orchestra* in 1942. In 1950 he settled in West Germany. Up to 1966 he was conductor of the orchestra of the *Bayerische Rundfunk*. Thereafter he was professor of conducting at the *Musikhochschule* in Munich.

Koetsiers' many compositions have been performed around the world frequently. The Philadelphia Orchestra played his Third Symphony in Philadelphia and New York. Rafael Kubelik and the orchestra of the *Bayerische Rundfunk* premiered the *Double Concerto for trumpet and trombone* as well as *Der Mann Lot* for men's choir, baritone, recitation and orchestra. *The Brass Symphony* was commissioned by the Philip Jones Brass Ensemble and has been performed in most European countries, the United States and Japan. Apart from performances in concert halls all over the world, his compositions, chamber and wind music in particular, are regularly broadcasted on radio.

Koetsiers' works for tuba include the pieces programmed for tonight's performance as well as the *Choralfantasie for Tuba and Organ*, *Don Giovanni's Ride to Hell for Tuba and Brass Ensemble* and *Falstaffade for Tuba and Four French Horns*. These three works in addition to the works you are hearing tonight will comprise Dr. Forbes's first solo recording: "Forbes Plays Koetsier: The Complete Solo Tuba Works of Jan Koetsier." Dr. Forbes successfully obtained a Large Grant from the Illinois State College of Fine Arts to assist with the funding of the project. The completed compact disc will be distributed by Summit Records and will be released in 2006.

**Michael Forbes** is the Assistant Professor of Tuba and Euphonium at Illinois State University where he also performs with the ISU Faculty Brass Quintet. Dr. Forbes has also recently been appointed music director with the newly formed Bloomington-Normal Brass Band. He began his career as a tubist with the U.S. Army Band, "Pershing's Own" in Washington, D.C., where he was an active soloist and chamber musician as well as the founder and conductor of the U.S. Army Brass Tentet. Dr. Forbes has also appeared with many American orchestras including the Illinois, Cedar Rapids, Rockford, Alexandria, Altoona, Aspen, Chautauqua, and Hot Springs Orchestras. He has also served on the faculties of Mary Washington College, Columbia Union College, Frederick Community College, and the Blue Lake Fine Arts Camp. Currently, he is an associate editor with the International Tuba/Euphonium Association's *Journal*.

A regularly commissioned composer and arranger, Dr. Forbes's works have been performed by a host of university wind, brass, and tuba/euphonium ensembles as well as by the U.S. Army Concert and Brass Bands. His works have also been selected for numerous international recordings and competitions (including a quartet work for the upcoming International Tuba/Euphonium Conference Quartet Competition in Budapest, Hungary). *Editions BIM* publishes his compositions while his many arrangements for low brass can be found in the catalogs of *Music Express*, *Bernel Music*, and the *Tuba and Euphonium-Press*.

As a soloist, conductor, and chamber musician with the internationally known *Sotto Voce Quartet*, Dr. Forbes is regularly invited to give performances and clinics at universities, honor bands, and conferences throughout the U.S. and Canada. *Sotto Voce* has released its premier recording, "Consequences" on the *Summit Records* label (DCD 322) and its second disc, "Viva Voce: The Quartets of John Stevens" will be released later this year. The quartet recently toured the United Kingdom, and Dr. Forbes will be giving solo performances in Hungary and Taiwan later this year.

Dr. Forbes received his Doctorate of Musical Arts Degree from the University of Maryland, his Master's of Music degree from the University of Wisconsin and his Bachelor's of Music degree from the Pennsylvania State University. Through an exchange program, he also spent a year in Manchester, England where he studied at the University of Manchester and the Royal Northern College of Music.

Dr. Forbes is a clinician for the Music Group, Inc. and a Besson Performing Artist.