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Ensemble Concerts: Symphony Orchestra, October 27, 1976

Julian Dawson Conductor

Bernard Eichen Violonist

Ko Iwasaki Cello

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ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA JULIAN DAWSON, conductor BERNARD EICHEN, violinist KO IWASAKI, cellist

PROGRAM

Symphony No. 32 in G (Overture in the Italian Style) Mozart

Mozart's Symphony No. 32 was written in Salzburg in 1779, during a rather discontented period in the composer's life. In 1777 he had left Salzburg for Munich, Mannheim and Paris in hopes of bettering his music and extending his opportunities. The sojourn was a failure, and in 1778 Mozart returned to Salzburg. That summer, along with Symphony No. 32, he composed the "Paris" symphony.

The "symphony" itself, though a three-movement work played without a break between movements, is in fact in the style of the older Italian opera overtures. Mozart used a much larger orchestra than he had in previous works; adding flutes, horns, trumpets, and tympani to the usual string and woodwind sections. The resulting work is very elegant and typically Mozartean in flavor. The intention for the piece may have been to use it as an overture to the singspiel Zaide. This intention is indeed secondary, for Symphony No. 32 survives as an unusual example of Mozart's superlative musicality.

University Union Auditorium Wednesday Evening October 27, 1976 8:00 p.m. Andante—Vivace non troppo

Composed in the summer of 1887 at Hofstetten, the Double Concerto was the fourth concerto and the last orchestral work Brahms was to create. It was premiered in the Fall of that same year, was conducted by the composer, and received a "wintry" reception from the audience as well as the performers.

Brahms heartily disagreed with his public on the intent of a concerto. Brahms felt the concerto to be a combination of unequal forces sounding together rather than simply a medium for solistic virtuosity; in addition, the give and take between soloist and orchestra should also be an intellectual one. The Double Concerto was written during a transitional period in music history in which extreme Romanticism gave way to new forms of expression. The two soloists greatly increase the amount of variational possibilities, but Brahms limits the showmanship tendencies of the soloists. On this point Brahms was highly criticized for composing "modern music."

INTERMISSION-15 MINUTES

Suite: The Firebird

Stravinsky

The Firebird Variations on the Firebird The Dance of the Princesses

The Infernal Dance of King Kastchei

Berceuse and Finale

Stravinsky received the commission for *The Firebird* in 1909, when he was 27. He was indeed flattered with the task of composition but not completely delighted with the subject matter. *The Firebird* was among the first of Stravinsky's compositions and is an interesting blend of the present and the future. He used new harmonies that brought about changes in tonal centers and experimented with new rhythms that produced an unusual rhythmic drive.

The firebird itself is a bird of brilliant feathers, familiar in many Russian folktales. The scenario for the ballet mixes several folktales, bringing together the firebird and the evil magician Kastchei, another familiar character. The story is about Prince Ivan, a simple hunter who stumbles into the eerie garden of the evil magician. Ivan falls in love with a beautiful princess held captive by the monster Kastchei and rescues her with the strange power given him by the magical bird of fire.

The traditional elements that never left Stravinsky's compositions were the Russian characteristics which were the results of his childhood and the added influences of his mentor, Timsky-Korsakov.

Pictures at an Exhibition

Mussorgsky-Ravel

Promenade (Introduction)
Gnomes
Promenade
The Old Castle
Tuileries

Byrdlo (The Ox-Cart)
Promenade
Ballet of Chicks in their shells
Samuel Goldenberg and Schmuyle (Two Polish Jews)
The Market Place at Limoges
Catacombs
The Hut on Fowl's Legs
The Great Gate to Kiev

Originally, *Pictures at an Exhibition* was conceived as a piano suite in memoriam to the artist Victor Hartmann. Hartmann's tragically early death in 1873 inspired Mussorgsky to capture in music what the painter had envisioned on canvas. From the memorial exhibition in 1874 of Hartmann's drawings and watercolors, Mussorgsky took ten subjects for the Piano Suite. The Suite in its turn enticed Maurice Ravel to orchestrate the pieces in 1923, and that is the familiar version which is played today.

Mussorgsky was another Russian composer directly influenced by his background. Many of his melodies come directly from folksongs. But unlike Stravinsky, who explored the technical possibilities of music, Mussorgsky wanted realism. He attempted to dramatize the natural characteristics of each subject, rather than show his emotions. *Pictures at an Exhibition* is Mussorgsky's first successful attempt to change the established German system of tonality and harmony. This tradition, deeply established even in Mozart's time, held its strength even up to and beyond such composers as Brahms. Perhaps it was necessary that outsiders such as Mussorgsky and Stravinsky change the system, rather than the Germans who had helped to establish it.

FUTURE ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY SYMPHONY DATES:

Friday, November 19, 1976

Overture: Bartholomew Fair
Four Sea Interludes (Peter Grimes)
Dancers, from the Three-Cornered Hat
Symphony No. 6 (Pathetique)

Britten
De Falla
Tschaikowsky

Wednesday, February 2, 1977

Overture: Beatrice and Benedict
Sinfonia Concertante
Concerto, played by the winner of Student Concerto Competition
Symphony No. 5
Shostakovich

Saturday, April 16, 1977
Sonata pian e forte Gabrielli
Concerto for two pianos Mozart
Symphony No. 9 in D Minor Beethoven

As well as these concerts, the Orchestra will be appearing throughout the year in Opera, and Oratorio.

ALL CONCERTS ARE AT 8:00 P.M. IN THE UNIVERSITY UNION AUDITORIUM.

ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA PERSONNEL

Violins

First Stand First John Cramer, Concert Master Llewellyn Preece

First Stand Second Jerry Brown, Principal Andrew Erlich

Beat Benninger Rebecca Brittin Linda Coates Helene Davitz Irwin Korov Elspeth Lunsden Deborah Maclin Pamela Mever lovce Gutschlag Greg Oakley Larry Park Debra Pederson Cecelia Roth Wanita Smith Carol Waldvogel Liz Westerlund Laurie Wilson Paula Whikehart

Violas

John McDonald, Principal Linda Morris

Kathleen Dooley Ellen Folta Carla Koehler Linda Langellier Larry Pilon

Cellos

Isaac Spellman, Principal Martin Hanson

Susan Allan
Dan Bunce
Shep Crumrine
Barbara Edwards
Laurie Howe
Richard Needham
Monica Overmier

Basses

Peter Guy, Principal Philip Murphy

Debra Buchanan Craig Jones Mary Leitschuh Lorraine Quigg

Harp

Lindsey Halpern

Flutes

Carol Neuleib, Co-Principal Kari Neuleib, Co-Principal Val Van Alen Nancy Allan (Piccolo) Anne Fitch

Oboes

Debbie Barford, Co-Principal Marvin Carlton, Co-Principal Merry Stover (English Horn) Kim Morrison

Clarinets

Melinda Matthews, Co-Principal Mary Ann Campbell, Co-Principal Dan Romano David Bean

Bassoons

Grant Gillett, Principal Lynnette Pearson

Horns

Tim Swenson, Principal Caron Jancik Robin Schoonhoven Joellen Edwards Mark Swan

Trumpets

Kirby Reece, Co-Principal Rick Rowell, Co-Principal Cindy Scaruffi, Co-Principal Wes Woolard Pam Wells Iim Stombres Trombones

Branden Mason Ioe Kaul

Bass Trombone Iim Bermann

Tuba Andy Carlson

Percussion Ted Parge Walter Parks Tim Morrow Darryl One Ron Engel Craig Mason

Orchestra Manager Marvin Carlton

Librarians Peter Guy Carol Waldvogel

Assistant Conductor
Darryl One

The Illinois State University Symphony String Section utilizes rotating seating. Players behind the first deck of each section change seats systematically every concert and are listed alphabetically in the roster above.