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RITORNELLO

DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC

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W. T. S. U. Symphonic Band



W. T. S. U. Chorale

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

We will truly try to editorialize in this issue - something we seldom do. Instead of our usual rambling about this and that, we'd like to offer our opinion of the music department's first big show of the semester, *SHOWCASE, 1983*, held January 28 at the Amarillo Civic Center auditorium.

Participation by practically the entire staff and student body in this annual scholarship fund-raising event insured an evening of high-class entertainment. Dave Ritter's trumpet choir set the tone of the concert with its rousing fanfare and the huge crowd (9,000 tickets sold) settled in for a real musical treat.

Bartok's Roumanian Folk Dances showed off our aspiring young orchestra in a delightful way, while a beautiful, soft, low-down sound engaged our ears when the tuba-euphonium ensemble played "Piece for Six Tubas". Rowie Durden led the clarinet ensemble through its paces as they entertained the audience with the familiar "Bach Goes To Town." The concert band's splendid rendition of "Ceremonial Fanfare" was well received. The percussion ensemble featured not only the xylophone in "Xylophonia," but also the extra-musical body responses of Ray Dillard which captivated the audience. Scott Herrington proved that he is an up and coming young choral conductor with considerable talent as he led the Collegiate Choir in its rendition of "Canticle of Praise." The Horn Club, directed by Ron Lemon, pleased the audience with its polychoral techniques and lush horn sounds. "New Orleans," offered by the dance ensemble, whetted our appetites for more such visual treats. We must confess to a weakness for Dave Ritter's jazz band and they couldn't possibly go wrong with "Sweet Georgia Brown." (The audience agreed with us).

But that piano ensemble's rendition of Smetana's "Rondo" was really neat as four nimble-fingered musicians whipped the keyboards into shape. "In Memoriam," performed by the trombone choir, added a sombre, low-keyed, but striking contrast to a program full of variety. Hugh Sanders' versatility was well demonstrated as he led the University Chorale through Rachmaninoff's beautiful chant-based version of "Ave Maria," followed by a

choralographed rendition of "In the Mood," (which elicited prolonged and loud response from the audience). One of the most enchanting numbers of the evening was Bach's "Air from Suite in D," played by the flute ensemble in stereophonic fashion, with flutes scattered throughout the auditorium. There were three "stars" in the final number: W. T.'s superior symphonic band, its renowned conductor, Dr. Gary Garner, and Dr. Joe Nelson, composer of the "Variations" from *A Cantata to Remember Don Baird*. This is an exceptionally fine score and proves again what we already knew, that Joe Nelson's stature as a composer is growing with each new work he writes. If the occasion presents itself be sure to treat yourself to the performance of an outstanding work by an excellent organization. Joe also wrote a band accompaniment for W. T.'s beautiful "Alma Mater," written by another well-known composer and former music department faculty member, Dr. Houston Bright. Everyone in the auditorium, performers and audience alike, joined in singing and playing the "Alma Mater" and on this proud note, *SHOWCASE 1983* became a magnificent memory.

Dr. Haines should indeed be proud of his department!

(Oh dear, there's no room left to wax enthusiastic about the numerous other exciting events provided by the music department both at home and around the United States. If you read this issue carefully, we're sure you'll develop your own enthusiasm.)

National Recognition for W.T. Chorale

The West Texas State University Chorale under the direction of Dr. Hugh Sanders has been invited through tape audition to appear at the national convention of the American Choral Directors Association. This biennial convention will be held in Nashville, Tennessee, March 9-12, 1983.

Appearing on the program at the ACDA convention with the University Chorale will be Robert Shaw who will conduct the Chorale in three Brahms compositions: *Nachtwache No. 1*, Opus 104 and *Nachtwache No. 2*, Opus 104, and *Zum Schluss*, Opus 65. Dr. Howard Swan will deliver an address entitled "A Cause for Celebration, A Two-Fold Responsibility," and Dr. Maurice Casey, choral director of Ohio State will lead in the session. Dr. Sanders will direct the University Chorale in "O, Clap Your Hands" by Peter Hallock, "Gloria" by Harry Somers, "God the Master of This Scene" by Harry Somers, "Ave Marie" plainsong chant, and "Ave Maria" by Rachmaninoff. The title of the final session of the ACDA convention is "The Nashville Symposium, A Cause for Celebration."

The W.T. Chorale will be a vital part of this program that will culminate in an address entitled "Worship and the Arts" by Robert Shaw. Then Mr. Shaw will conduct the Chorale and the approximately 3,000 choral conductors in attendance in a performance of "Create In Me A Clean Heart" by Brahms and "Dona Nobis Pacem" from *Mass in B Minor* by J. S. Bach.

Band News

The Symphonic Band travelled to Lubbock on February 4 to perform for the American Society of University Composers meeting jointly sponsored by W.T. and Texas Tech on the Tech campus. Included on the program was Dr. Nelson's *A Cantata to Remember Don Baird*. The monumental five-movement work was commissioned by Kappa Kappa Psi.

Preparations are under way for the May 18 concert at Carnegie Hall. The tentative program includes *Commando March* by Barber, Ingolf Dahl's *Sinfonietta*, *Parable* by Pershchetti, *Dilemmae* by Latham (commissioned and premiered by the W.T. Band in 1974), a new commission work by Dr. Larry Alan Smith of Juilliard, Badings' *Concerto for Flute*, with Julius Baker, solo flutist with the New York Philharmonic, and *Andante and Rhondo for Two Flutes* by Doppler, with Baker and Brad Garner.

The band will play its program in the Amarillo Civic Center on Saturday, May 14 (the evening of graduation) at 8:00 p.m. The next day they will depart by bus for New York City. In response to many requests expressing an interest in attending the concert, we are working with a travel agency to fly a group to New York for about a four-day tour. Anyone interested should contact Gary Garner.

The response to our requests for Alumni donations has been very gratifying. Contributors have been listed elsewhere in this issue. Those contributing \$25 or more will be listed in the program under the following categories and will receive two complimentary tickets to the May 14 concert in Amarillo. In addition, contributors of \$50 or more will receive a recording of the Carnegie Hall concert:

Sponsor: \$100 or more

Patron: \$ 50 to 99

Contributor: \$25 to 49

Anyone wishing to contribute should mail their checks to:

WTSU Band-Carnegie Hall Fund

West Texas State University

Canyon, Texas, 79016

Shortly before press time Phil Rogers (Class of '78) of Midland called to pledge \$5,000 toward the trip fund! Phil and MarfaGene plan to be in attendance at the concert (needless to say, they've been promised the best seats in the house!)

We have two major fund raisers. One is the sale of coupon books for film processing. Each book is \$7.50 for 10 coupons each of which, for a cost of half the Kodak list price, may be redeemed for the processing of one roll of film plus a roll of replacement film. The service is fast and the quality of the work is excellent. Any of you who own a camera can save money and help the band at the same time. Just send a check to the band for as many books as you would like.

The second project is raffling off the use of a new Oldsmobile Cutlass for a year. The car is being donated by Jack Fuqua of Amarillo. Tickets will sell for \$5. We plan to limit the sale to 2,500 tickets in order that purchasers will have a reasonable chance to win. Again, those wishing to purchase tickets may do so by sending a check to the music office.



M. Gaume

H.S.

G.G.

Carnegie Hall Contributors

As of press time, the following alumni and other friends of the band have contributed toward defraying the expenses incurred by the May appearance of W.T.'s Symphonic Band in Carnegie Hall:

Marty and David Schuette
Gary and Jerilyn Laramore
Dr. J. L. Burke
Ben Gollehon
Bill and Cheri Duggan
Tom Knighton
David and Mary Jo Fennell
Clara Looten
Jim and Jill Duggan
Bernie and DeAnn Tackitt
Les and Ruth Talbert
Ricky and Tammie Kleine
Dale Pless
John and Lynda Laird
Dean and Elyse Hearn
DeAnn Holmes
Mesa Petroleum
Charles Steed
Jack Fuqua
Don Stevens
John Hunt
Ralph and Linda Jackson
Mr. and Mrs. Santos Lujan
Richard and Nancy Rath
James and Linda Andrews
Iris Gonzalez
David W. Smith
Jim and Alice Cordani
David Stockton
Doug and Cathy Kincaid
Ken Barker
James and Pam Petty
Ray Robbins
Jeff and Wanda Doughten
Mark and Denise Harman
Russ and Leslie Blanchard
Laura Lopez
Kim Rockwell
Julie Johnson
Doug and Patty Laramore
Ruth Ann Chiaraluce
Dick Whitten
Marihoward Englebrecht
Steve Baird
Bille and Lucy Proctor
Ronnie Vaughn
Linda and John Hatchel
Randy Storie
O. T. Ryan
Western Sales and Testing
Mila Gibson
David Hinds
Jamie Larson
Susan and Paul Worosello
H. R. Fulton
Robert Smith
Randy and Kathryn Bloodworth
Gerald and Mary Smith
Davida Crozier
Cpt. Regan K. Smith
Phil and MarfaGene Rogers
Don and Beverly Adams
Cindy Parker
Kay Reeves
Scottie Johnson
Dr. John Brantley
Matilda Gaume



Dr. Sanders Does It Again

Dr. Hugh Sanders, dean of the School of Fine Arts, has been elected president of the American Choral Directors Association. Dean Sanders, who is past president of ACDA Southwest Division, was nominated by a committee of national choral leaders and elected through mail ballots by all association members.

Those nominated are required to have been an officer in some level of ADCA; have a national reputation as a choral director; their choirs must be well-known and consistent; they must show outstanding leadership in ACDA and other areas; and must be able to work with people successfully.

Dean Sanders will be undertaking an eight-year commitment. He will take office July 1 and serve as president-elect for two years with his chief responsibility being the organization of the national convention, March 1985, in Salt Lake City, Utah. He will serve as president of ACDA from 1985 to 1987 to become vice president in charge of foreign relations, 1987-1989. He will be president of the ACDA Past President Council, 1989-91, becoming then a life member of the Past President Council. Our congratulations on this awesome charge!

N.W.

Those High Flutin' Garners

Anyone who has attended the Music School at West Texas State University knows about Dr. Gary Garner's ability as a flute player and perhaps is also aware that his sons Brad and Blair are also accomplished flutists. Now, with two new recordings involving the whole family, the rest of the world can learn of their musical talent.

The first album, appropriately titled, "The First Family of the Flute," was released in September and includes the work of four of the five family members. Performing on flute in various solos, duos, and trios are Dr. Gary Garner, conductor of the orchestra and band at WTSU, Dr. Brad Garner, WTSU grad and the first person to earn a DMA in flute performance at Juilliard, and Blair Garner, WTSU freshman and disc jockey at Q107 Radio in Canyon. The middle son in the family, Bryan, who is now an inactive flute performer and who is pursuing a law degree at the University of Texas, contributed the program notes for the recording. Wife and mother, Mariellen Garner had originally intended to

display her piano skills by accompanying a solo by Brad, but a busy schedule of her own prevented her from making the trip to New York.

Included on the first album are works by Campagnoli, Devienne, Boehm, and Vazzana. The Garners are assisted on this album by Marguerita Oundjian, pianist, and the New York Chamber Sinfonia, a group of Juilliard-trained musicians which Brad established in 1980 and currently directs.

A mere month later, the Garners recorded a second album and this time included Mariellen as recording engineer and Julius Baker, one of the world's leading flutists, with whom Brad studied at Juilliard. Baker will be guest soloist with the WTSU band when it appears at Carnegie Hall in May.

On the second album, "Flutes a Tre," a trio of Gary, Brad, and Mr. Baker perform works by Quantz, Tomasi, Reicha, Larry Alan Smith, and Dr. Norman J. Nelson, WTSU professor of music theory and composition.

Both albums are produced under the Golden Crest label and are available at the WTSU Music Department, Box 879 WT Station, Canyon, Texas 79016, which will gladly take orders through the mail. Through nothing specific has yet been planned, the Garner family will consider making another album in the future. We certainly hope they do.

B. H.

Festival of Young String Artists

Now in its fifth year, the Festival of Young String Artists at West Texas State has become a major event for talented high school string players and pianists. The only event of its kind, the Festival offers the singular opportunity for each of 30 young performers to appear as soloist with an orchestra of soloists. This year's festival was held March 24-27 in Mary Moody Northern Hall. The purpose of the festival is to offer area high school string and piano students an opportunity to perform with orchestra, either as a soloist or as a member of the supporting orchestra.

A Concerto Soloists' Orchestra, made up of 27 pre-college string students (violin, viola, cello, bass, ages 15-19) plus three pre-college pianists is selected on the basis of taped auditions. Each string student selected rehearses and performs a single concerto movement with the orchestra and participates as a member of the orchestra for the rehearsals and performances of fellow soloists. The wind, brass and percussion members of the orchestra are drawn from the WTSU Orchestra. The seating in the string sections is rotational and there are no ranking or selected winners.

Dr. Gary Garner conducted the Festival Orchestra and members of the Harrington String Quartet coached the string performances, assisted by Mr. Michael Cameron, our double bassist. Mr. Stanley Potter assisted and advised the piano participants.

It is not too soon to be making plans to enter next year's festival. For further information concerning this rewarding and challenging event, contact Mr. John Sumerlin, Chairman, P.O. Box #879, WT Station, West Texas State University, Canyon, Texas 79016.

J.S.

Alumni News

- 1952—**Ruth Ann Soll Cooper**, BME, Piano, 1953, MA, visited in Canyon during late January and early February. Ruth Ann and her physician husband, Jack, have raised three fine children, Kim, Keith, and Kori. Nominally a housewife all these years, Ruth Ann has kept up her piano playing and is currently one half of a 2-piano team which gives concerts regularly in her home town of Colorado Springs. As a hobby Ruth Ann buys and sells silver items of all kinds. It was great to see her again. She was quite impressed with the many changes in the music department since she graduated from W.T.
- 1971—**Nancy Green Wright**, BM, Flute, 1975, MA, is still working for IBM in Houston. She has recently bought a new house in which she played hostess to her whole family during the Christmas vacation. Many of you will remember that her father served as the head of the music department and the dean of the school of Fine Arts during the 60s and early 70s. Nancy sends her greetings to her Canyon friends.
- 1973—**David Boothe**, BM, organ, is Chief Engineer for Rainbow Sound, Inc. in Dallas. David became fascinated with sound production while he was still an undergraduate. He went on to Baylor to work on his master's degree. It was good to hear from you, David. Keep in touch!
- 1973—**Rene Clemente**, BM, Voice, after five years in a leading role in *A Chorus Line*, is now appearing in the New York production of the current musical hit, *Cats*.
- 1974—**Cliff Franklin**, BME, 1976, MM and his wife **Chrystal**, 1976, BME, are busy raising two children while Cliff continues as band director in Snyder. Chrystal runs a children's business in their home, plus being director of religious education for their church.
- 1974-6—**Cecil Fulfer**, ex-student of voice and dance, has completed road tours of *Camelot* and *The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas*, and is working off-Broadway in New York and in Paris. He is singing again, which he enjoys as much as dancing.
- 1974—**Rick Land**, BM, organ, and wife, the former **Jan Bruton**, BME, 1976, live in Dallas where Rick is organist at the First Baptist Church. Rick is understandably proud of the new pipe organ recently installed in his church. It is a 145-rank Keates Geissler and is one of the ten largest organs in North America, with 8,191 pipes, five keyboards and eight divisions!
- 1975—**Randy and Candy (Dodgen) Land**, BM and BME, are in Pampa now. Randy is organist at the First Baptist Church and Candy is mostly caring for two very young Land developments. They are building a new home which they expect to move into in June.
- 1975—**Linda Pinkerton**, BM, Voice, 1978, MM and Richard Parins were married on February 12, 1983, in Los Angeles at the University Chapel on the USC campus. Linda is now personal secretary to the Executive Producer of Ripley's "Believe it or Not," a weekly Sunday evening television show; Richard is a ceramic tile designer and contractor. They plan to make their home in Los Angeles.
- 1976—**Jamie Larson**, BME, was married last September 4 to Pat Richardson, who is Director of Guidance for Fort Bend Independent School District; Jamie is still assistant band director at Willowridge High School in the Ft. Bend I.S.D. Jamies and Pat are expecting another Larson to grace their household come July. Jamie says, Think Pink!
- 1976—**Jamie Martin**, BM, received his M.B.A. degree from UT, Austin, in December, 1981. Jamie is currently working as a systems analyst for Informatics in Dallas. He is chief technical advisor for the micro-computer operations and is also writing some computer music.
- 1976—**Gary Thrasher**, BMT, Voice, 1980, MM, sang the leading role in Fargo-Moorhead Civic Opera's presentation of the *Tsar and the Carpenter* by Albert Lortzing in October, 1982. Gary is voice instructor at Concordia College in Moorhead, Minnesota.
- 1977—**Lorraine (Baldwin) Kubala**, BME, is now head band director at Eastwood High School in her home town of El Paso. Husband Steve programs computers while Lorraine produces a "T" band.
- 1978—**Margarete Hardin Brandenburg**, BMTh, is currently enrolled in a seminary in Louisville, Kentucky, working toward a Master of Divinity degree in Pastoral Counseling. She still works at a mental health service with several satellites in Indianapolis part of the week and has a 2-hour commute to Louisville.
- 1978—**Fidelis Fetsch**, BME, teaches elementary music and band at Loop, Texas, east of Seagraves.
- 1978—**Lisa Payne**, BMTh, tried a change of pace and is an auto insurance adjuster in the Dallas-Ft. Worth area for the present.
- 1979—**Marilyn Garrett**, BM, interrupted graduate work in piano at Colorado University to work full time with the Children's Theatre in Denver. Break a leg, Marilyn!
- 1979—**Cody Myers**, BME, is land man for Keltoma Oil Drilling Company in Midland and his wife, **Starla (Hinton)**, 1980, BMTh, is records processor for the Marathon Company until their baby arrives in late spring.
- 1979—**Richard Rejino**, BME, Piano, and **Mona Bledsoe**, 1981, BM, Piano, were married last December. They are teaching and studying piano in the Dallas-Denton area.
- 1979—**Dennis Sullivan**, BME, is selling Dr. Pepper, as you have probably seen him in the recent TV commercial.
- 1980—**Steve Boaz**, BMTh, has been promoted to full-rank music therapist at the Amarillo Psychiatric Pavilion.
- 1980—**Mike Johnson**, BME, Bassoon, 1982, MM, and **Gretta Mayben**, popular band twirler, were married recently. Mike is currently band director at Lee Junior High School in San Angelo.
- 1981—**Elizabeth Garcia**, BME, is assistant band director at Pecos High School and director at Pecos Junior High.
- 1981—**Gerry Langner**, MM, went home to Saskatchewan to teach not only choir but math and physics as well. There is snow on the ground eight months of the year! He writes, "I still miss y'all."
- 1981—**Stella Levy**, BME, is doing graduate work in dance at WT and captain for the dance corps for *Oklahoma* and the *Nutcracker*.
- 1981—**Kendall Mowell**, 1982, MM, organ, has been accepted for the Residential Summer Course of the Royal School of Church Music, Addington Palace, Croydon, England. He hopes to spend additional time on the continent enjoying traditional tourist attractions.
- 1982—**Ralph Kimbrough**, BME, is teaching public school voice in Amarillo with Project II.
- 1982—**Alex Leal**, BME, Voice, is spending the spring and summer in France, studying as a free lance student at the Conservatory of Paris. In August, he will be enrolled as a graduate student in voice at the Boston Conservatory of Music where he will pursue a master's degree in Opera and Oratorio performance.
- 1982—**Julie Lorey**, BM, is working on her MA in Vocal pedagogy at NTSU in Denton. She married John Connor, a sociology major at WT, right after Thanksgiving.
- 1982—**John**, MM, and **Charlotte Lowe**, 80-82 student, are living in Richardson. John teaches junior high band as well as elementary music and high school band. Charlotte is student teaching and teaches private flute.
- 1982—**Michael Norris**, BME, choral director at Travis Junior High School in Amarillo, was recently married to Robin Wright of Tulia.
- 1982—**Mitzi Scoggins**, BME, is now teaching 5-6 grade music and JHS-HS choirs at Fritch, which is becoming so much that

there are 200 people ahead of her to get a P.O. Box. She gets her mail at the General Delivery window.

1982—**Michael Roberts**, BME, 1978, MA, will have an article based on his master's thesis, "Current Pedagogical Techniques of Bass Clarinet Playing," published in the summer or fall issue of *The Clarinet*, the journal of the International Clarinet Society.

Campus Organizations

The **Music Therapy Club** has been quite busy with a homecoming auction to raise money for buying new instruments, and a unique slave auction. Club members were "sold" to faculty members for various odd jobs, "enduring" the pain of blistered fingers after many relentless hours of hemming costumes for the Collegium, raking leaves, washing windows and cars, etc. This year's regional convention will be held on the W.T. campus, March 25 and 26. Students from three states will be attending and therapists, teachers and clinicians from around the Midwest will be offering presentations on a variety of topics. Any interested persons are encouraged to call Steve Wilder for further details.

Kappa Kappa Psi has just held a very successful membership drive including recruitment of inactive members. Alpha Psi chapter is hosting the precinct convention this semester. Each chapter is to bring two members to each committee session. Lots of fun is planned including a basketball tournament, a dance, socials and mock rituals. Texas Tech is the site of the national convention and along with Tau Beta Sigma many activities are planned to represent W.T. at the convention.

Schola Madrigalis is under the direction of Molly J. Owen this semester. A concert will be presented Thursday, April 14 at 6:00 p.m. in Northern Hall. Musical selections presented will range from Renaissance to Contemporary. For two of the pieces, Schola will be joined by the Freshman Schola.

The Alpha Nu chapter of **Mu Phi Epsilon** received ten new pledges from their Spring '83 rush parties. Other activities include three members who have been chosen for roles in the opera production of *Die Fledermaus* by J. Strauss, Pam Thrash and Sheryllyn Walker were selected for *Who's Who* at WTSU, and several members are involved with Schola Madrigalis, New Day Singers and other projects on campus. Mu Phi members are planning a Baby Face contest to make money. Members will collect baby pictures of the faculty and by guessing the identity of the "baby faces" many good prizes will be awarded. The members will also sponsor a concession stand at the W.T. contests and will help with the Piano and Organ Festival in February.

M.H.D.

Students in the Spotlight

Lynda Gordon, senior Music Therapy major with Organ concentration, serves St. Paul Lutheran Church as organist. She will begin her internship in North Carolina in July. **Brent Ivey**, sophomore Organ major and **Bob Zeman**, freshman Trumpet major, are scholarship

students of Polk Street Methodist Church. Both sing baritone in the sanctuary choir and Brent serves as student organist. **Kenny Shore**, senior Organ major (BME) from Hereford, serves the First Presbyterian Church, Hereford, as organist and director of children's choirs. **Nadina Baird**, Canyon senior, has a Composition major with Organ concentration. She is currently writing a piece featuring two flutes and this piece will be included in the Carnegie Hall debut of the WTSU Symphonic Band. Nadina serves the First Christian Church in Canyon as organist. **Arlis Hamilton**, graduate Organ major, is organist at St. Mary's Catholic Church, Amarillo, and Chef of the Plantation Restaurant, Interstate at Bell. **Steve Richardson**, junior Composition major with piano concentration, is student organ technician. Steve, with the help of Brent Ivey, does a superb job in minor tuning and maintenance between the visits of the professional technician. Steve will have several of his compositions performed in a late spring program.

First recipients of the Continuing Voice Scholarship Fund, established in the spring semester of 1982 through the generosity of Elsa Porter to recognize outstanding students in voice at WTSU, were **Bill Bingham**, **Cindy Cole**, **Karen Koetting**, and **Jerry Lewis**. Each one received a scholarship for the fall semester of 1982 in the amount of \$200 apiece. Awards are to be made to returning voice majors and selection is to be made by the voice faculty, Royal Brantley, chairman. Bill, Cindy, and Jerry were again selected to receive the scholarship in the spring semester of 1983, and since Karen is in Austin serving her internship for her music therapy degree, James Pierce was selected in her place, to receive the scholarship.

Mike Johnson, MM, '83, and **Greta Vonne** Mayben, senior, were married February 19 at Trinity Lutheran Church, Amarillo. Mike teaches instrumental music in the San Angelo public schools and continues to serve Trinity as organist.

Five students from W.T. were commissioned as summer missionaries at the annual Baptist Student Union Leadership Training Conference held in Waco, in February. Among the five were two music students. **Joe Bolin**, Clovis, New Mexico sophomore music performance major, will serve as a BSU director in Minnesota next fall as a part of the semester mission program and **Karen Skinner**, Odessa junior music performance major, will serve in Mexico.

The music department was well represented in this year's selection of students honored as members of *Who's Who* among Students in American Universities and Colleges. Our congratulations to **Amy Barnhart**, BM in Therapy, **Jay Martin**, Graduate in Conducting, **Jill McKee**, BM, Viola, **Lorraine Rieth**, Graduate, Piano, **Pamela Thrash**, BM, Voice, and **Sheryllyn Walker**, BM, Therapy.

M.R. McC.

Stringing Along

The string department is busier than ever these days. **Mark Wallace**, Amarillo junior, gave a cello recital Dec. 6, **Molly Darden** and **Alan Asher**, both Amarillo seniors, gave violin recitals on January 23 and February 13, **Francine Krueger**, Amarillo senior, scheduled a violin recital for February 24,

Jill McKee, Amarillo senior, is playing a viola recital on March 4, and **Wes Robinson**, Borger senior, is planning a therapy recital for March 30. Also in the works is a string departmental recital for late March on which many other students and chamber groups will perform.

The Festival of Young String Artists on March 24 is drawing many applicants from high schools around the state and should prove to be the most successful festival to date.

On the February 27 concert by the University Orchestra two string players were featured as soloists in Haydn's *Sinfonia Concertante*: **Molly Darden**, Amarillo violinist, and **Mark Wallace**, Amarillo's cellist.

The Harrington Quartet just completed the second pair of concerts on their Amarillo-Canyon series and also played a successful concert at the TMEA convention in San Antonio, on February 10. Future concerts are scheduled in many Panhandle towns including Plainview on March 10, Canyon on April 15, Borger, April 17, Pampa, April 22 and Amarillo, May 15. A date has not yet been set for a Childress concert and there are others still in the works. The quartet will again play for the Juilliard Quartet seminar at Michigan State University immediately following the competition in Banff (about which see story elsewhere in this issue).

M. L.

Ritornello Interviews Dr. Nelson

R. We're curious about several aspects of your latest composition, *A Cantata for Band to Remember Don Baird*. Besides the obvious fact of Don Baird's death, what things influenced your decision to write this work?

N. W.T.'s chapter of Kappa Kappa Psi asked me to write a piece for the 1980 TMEA concert by the Symphonic Band. They wanted a piece that would show off all of the various sections of the band to prove that this band was strong from top to bottom. As is always the case when I write a commissioned work, I tell them that I'll write what I want to write and they can listen to it and then decide if they want to perform it. I wanted to do a major work for band in memory of Don so I finished one movement of it (the last movement) and Dr. Gary Garner conducted it at the TMEA convention.

R. Did your relationship with Don and his family extend beyond that of colleagues?

N. Yes. When I was a junior in high school I went to the McMurray College Music Camp just to study Euphonium with Don Baird. He gave me several private lessons but wouldn't accept any of my "spending money" for them. He invited me to play in a faculty brass ensemble which turned out to be one of the most rewarding musical experiences of my youth. Also, he wrote a letter which convinced a music store to replace a defective instrument that they had sold me. Needless to say, I thought he was one of the finest persons I had ever met. When I came to W.T. as a faculty member Don remembered me and was one of the first of the established faculty to be really friendly with me and my family. I was pleased to discover that he was as concerned about his current students as he was about me years ago. Finally, and of great importance to A

Cantata for Band, was the fact that I worked for several years with four of the five members of the Baird family. All are very talented and a pleasure to know.

R. The score of *A Cantata for Band* indicates that each movement was written for a member of the Baird family. Would you tell us something about this?

N. First let me explain a concept of musical form and compositional process that I tried to project in this piece. I believe that one good way to make contrasting musical ideas seem to belong in the same piece together is to search out and expose those things which they have in common and allow them to grow and develop together much like two people with different backgrounds joining together to forge a future. Another way is to use ideas that start from the same inception and have each develop in its own unique way. This is what happens when children grow up. Everything in the piece can be traced to two completely different ideas which are joined together, kept apart, allowed to multiply and change. The five members of the Baird family were used as models for this concept. All show inherited and acquired similarities but their differences are even more obvious. I hope the five movements of this work leave a similar impression.

R. The fifth movement was written for Don. Did you try to portray him in the movement?

N. Indirectly yes, but not in an obvious way. What I did was to think back through the numerous conversations Don and I had about my music. I tried to remember the musical traits he liked most in my works. I believe that his personal tastes in music were reflections of his personality. By emphasizing those traits of my music that he liked I think I captured some elements of his personality. Among the things that he liked were lyric counterpoint, hard-driving rhythmic figures, a solemn chorale, and a sharp, joking blat. One characteristic of the fifth movement that shows Don's personality is the way new ideas start before old ones are finished.

R. Why did you call it a cantata when it does not use voices?

N. I always find it hard to name pieces. Instrumental pieces are particularly hard. Originally I was going to use instrumental soloists sitting in front of the band in much the way vocal soloists are used in an oratorio or cantata. I decided not to use soloists in this way because as the composition progressed it became clear that I would need too many soloists. I didn't change the title because the essential nature of the work did not change.

R. Explain the titles of each movement.

N. I. "Fugatos" is a series of fugal-like passages. Only one subject is used but metrically it is treated in a manner not unlike the old mensuration canons. If you ignore the meter signs the note values look alike but when the meter signs are added their differences become clear.

II. "Passacaglias" contains an eight-measure repeating bass line which in the middle is replaced with a four-measure repeating treble line. Eventually they are combined.

III. "Canons" is a series of accompanied two-voice canons broken by interludes. I tried to find

interesting ways to order the individual phrases and play guessing games with the audience as to which canonic phrase will be used next. It was the hardest to compose.

IV. "Ritornellos" alternates a two-voice contrapuntal ritornello that contains the most complex contrapuntal relationships I've ever composed with a simple two-voice chorale that grows longer with each entrance. Three solos are interspersed. This movement contains the most severe contrasts in the work and is one of my favorites.

V. "Variations" is a series of seven variations on material from the other movements. But since this movement was completed first one could say that the other movements were created from it. The second movement is the least affected by the fifth but has a lot of influence on the other three. Hence II and V are the parents and I, III, and IV are the children.

R. Why did it take you so long to complete the piece?

N. I stopped working on it several times to compose other pieces. Also, I put off the long, tedious job of copying score and parts in ink.

R. This may be an unfair question but are you happy with the piece now that you have heard two performances of the entire work?

N. I find it very hard to judge my own work after a reading or first performance because I worry too much. Later performances or a private listening to a tape are more rewarding. Right now I like the piece very much. I honestly think it will wear well. The feeling one gets when he finally completes a creative effort that has literally consumed thousands of hours of thought is unlike anything else imaginable. An honest attempt at art really is its own reward. I treasure my creative life greatly and always find the completion of one work a strong stimulus to do another. I've got three more in progress now. I'm anxious to complete my next one.

R. Thank you very much, Dr. Nelson, for taking the trouble and spending your valuable time to enlighten those who are fortunate enough to hear this thoughtfully conceived and brilliantly executed piece of music. We hope all of our readers (and many others) will, sooner or later, have an opportunity to hear *A Cantata for Band to Remember Don Baird*.

Dancin' or Terpsichore Reincarnate

Dance has been evident in the Department of Music since Neil Hess first began to collaborate in Opera Workshop productions, but since he joined the Fine Arts staff as Assistant Professor of Dance in 1977, dance has become as conspicuous a part of our musical scene as any other performing group - band, choir, orchestra, etc. Pass by the dance studio in Northern Hall any time, any day between 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. to see that dance is an integral part of the musical production at WTSU. During those hours four consecutive dance classes are in session: Dance Forms (beginning ballet and jazz), Introduction to Ballet (for those with at least one semester of ballet), Intermediate and Advanced Ballet (for those progressing toward combinations, and Ballet Ensemble (for advanced students only). There is even a degree program for dance majors in the planning stages.

WT dance students are the mainstay for many area productions in addition to Opera Workshop: WTSU *Showcase*; the summer musical, *TEXAS*; the annual *Nutcracker* production in collaboration with the Amarillo Symphony Orchestra; and the Lone Star Ballet, which will present *Jesus Christ Superstar* this season. The Ballet Ensemble makes annual tours of the area appearing this spring in performances at fifteen Amarillo public schools. In March they will perform with the WTSU Percussion Ensemble at the 1983 Southwestern Regional Conference of the National Association for Music Therapy to be held on the WTSU campus.

If there is any doubt of a future in dance, the conspicuous success of a number of former WT students should dispel that. Rene Clemente (1973) is currently in the New York production of *Cats*, Joe Anderson (1978) is in *The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas*, Natalie Greener is a member of the Radio City Ballet, Kathy Cooper is touring Europe in *West Side Story*, while Quinten Clark is in there with a modern dance troupe. Ralph Kimbrough (1982) and Larry Aguilar are dancing at Six Flags. Ben Lokey has appeared in New York and Los Angeles productions of *A Chorus Line* and has a successful career as dancer/choreographer on the West Coast. Numerous former WT dancers can be seen at the Boston Ballet summer program, as members of the Los Angeles Ballet, or as soloists with the Fort Worth Ballet.

The beat goes on. . .

S.P.



Dance at W. T. S. U.

Opera/Musical Theatre Workshop

The opera/musical theatre workshop has planned two productions for this spring, an operetta and an evening of operatic scenes.

To the enchanting strains of a waltz, Johann Strauss's delightful operetta *Die Fledermaus* will sweep into the Branding Iron Theatre for three sparkling performances April 22-24. The quintessential operetta, *Die Fledermaus* embodies the very essence of carefree life at the height of the glorious romantic era. Produced and directed by Burt Rosevear, the operetta will feature a wonderfully talented cast including Janie Sims, Karen Skinner, Cindy Cole, Lee Lumbley, Robin Lee, James Pierce, Gerry Lewis, Morgan Boardman, Pamela Thrash, Tom Heard, Rebecca Reese, and Cloyce Beard. Members of the chorus include Kathleen Duke, Gina Gist, Robin Hoover, Teresa King, and Wes Naron.

This glittering production will also showcase choreography and ballet sequences by the Dance Ensemble under the direction of Neil Hess, scenography by James Kemmerling, and the WTSU orchestra prepared by Gary Garner.

A gala evening of operatic scenes will be presented on March 22 in the atrium of Northen Hall. Directed by Ms. Rebecca Reese and Mr. Phil Briggs, this evening's selections will include scenes from *Carmen* by Bizet, *The Old Maid and the Thief* by Menotti, *The Pirates of Penzance* by Gilbert and Sullivan, *Così Fan Tutti* by Mozart, and *The Telephone* by Menotti. Appearing in *Carmen* will be Kathleen Duke, Karen Skinner, Gina Gist, James Pierce, and Morgan Boardman. Cloyce Beard, Pamela Thrash and Teresa King will be featured in *The Old Maid and the Thief*, while Gerry Lewis, James Pierce, and Cloyce Beard will sing selections from *The Pirates of Penzance*. *Così fan Tutti* will feature Gina Gist, Pamela Thrash, Morgan Boardman, Lee Lumbley, Kathleen Duke, and Gerry Lewis, and Cindy Cole and Bill Bingham will do the honors in *The Telephone*.

These should both be highly entertaining productions which you won't want to miss. Plan now to attend!

B.R.

The Harrington String Quartet at Banff

The Harrington String Quartet, already encouraged by some of the world's leading musicians, has recently taken a giant step toward international recognition through the honor of becoming one of only ten young string quartets in the world to be invited to compete in the Banff International String Quartet Competition, April 24-30, 1983.

The Banff competition is being held to mark the 50th anniversary of the Banff Centre School of Fine Arts in Banff, Alberta, Canada. Promoted world-wide as a major international music event, the winning quartet's concert will be recorded by the Canadian and British Broadcasting Corporations and distributed internationally by Radio-Canada International. Six of the world's leading quartet players will be the judges; among them are Mischa Schneider (formerly Budapest Quartet), Raphael Hillyer (formerly Juilliard



Scott Herrington and Penny Pennington preside over the Renaissance Dinner as lord and lady of the manor.

Quartet), and Emanuel Hurwitz (Aeolian Quartet). The long list of prizes for the winning quartet includes concert tours of Canada and the United States.

Already proud of its own resident string quartet, one of only two such groups in the state, Amarillo/Canyon may have even greater cause to celebrate the caliber of its musical climate later this spring after Banff. We wish them well!

J.S.

Music Therapy Regional Conference

The 1983 Southwestern Regional Conference of the National Association for Music Therapy will be held March 25-27, 1983, on the campus of West Texas State University. Several graduates of the WT music therapy program have been scheduled to make presentations at the conference. Among them are: Linda Page, RMT, Cheryl Hanner, RMT, Dellinda Henry, RMT, and Sara Williams, RMT. A partial listing of other noted professionals from music therapy and related fields who will present sessions includes: Dr. Don Michael, RMT, Texas Woman's University; Dr. Hanet Gilbert, RMT, University of Kansas; Dr. Charles Eagles, RMT, Southern Methodist University; Dr. Robert Segal, Graduate School of Social Work, University of Houston; Mark Rider, RMT, Eastern Montana College; and Wayne Kritsberg, Texas Commission on Alcoholism, Austin.

In addition to the 31 scheduled sessions activities such as a B-B-Q in Palo Duro Canyon State Park and a night tour of the Amarillo Medical Center Complex will be included. Several musical groups will provide entertainment for the conference, including the Chorale which will perform during the opening session and Dr. George Eason, who will provide an informal format for conference participants to be involved in jazz improvisation. Approximately 250 music therapy professionals and students are expected to attend from the Texas, Oklahoma, and New Mexico area.

Second Annual Madrigal Dinner

Yuletide festivities of 16th century England came to life on December 6, 1982, during the second annual madrigal dinner co-sponsored by the Student Activities Council and the School of Fine Arts. The evening began with the arrival of the lords and ladies of the manor being heralded in by a blazon of trumpets. After the toast of the traditional wassail, a spiced punch drink, came the presentation of the boar's head which preceded the serving of the Renaissance meal, prepared by the Marriott Food Service. After dinner entertainment was presented by the Matilda Gaume Early Music Consort, directed by Robert Krause, the Schola Madrigalis, directed by Douglas Burton, and Schola, directed by Molly Owen. The guests were also entertained by the antics of court jester, Rod Zeman, and were given the opportunity to observe and learn to dance the 16th century Pavane.

The festive affair was presented in the East Dining Hall which was transformed into a Renaissance banquet hall complete with banners, coats-of-arms and garlands of evergreen. The lords and ladies, entertainers, and servants, as well as a goodly number of guests, were dressed in Renaissance costumes. This highly enjoyable event was a great way to start off the Yuletide season.

R.K.

West Texas State University in Musical Europe

**A Fifteen-day Cultural Exploration:
July 2-16, 1983**

West Texas State University students, alumni, and interested musical patrons will have the opportunity the summer of 1983 to travel from Amarillo/Dallas to Amsterdam, Frankfurt, Heidelberg, Munich, Salzburg, Vienna, and return on the dates of July 2-16. The bulk of the trip will be spent in Vienna with two days spent in each of Munich, Salzburg, and Amsterdam.

For information concerning the details of the trip, please contact Dr. Hugh Sanders, Dean of the School of Fine Arts, W.T. Box 238, Canyon, Texas, 79016 or call (806) 656-3861.

H.S.

Faculty Footnotes

Like a lumbering Saint Bernard, **Mr. Rosevear** spent this semester's snow days rescuing other stranded instructors and innocent passersby from the grip of ferocious snow monsters. The valiant deeds done, Mr. Rosevear returned to his busy studio and production duties for *Die Fledermaus* scheduled for performance April 22-24. On the homefront, late night work on his children's Atari has earned him badges for Kaboom, Pitfall, and Starmaster. Later this spring and summer the Rosevears are looking forward to the MET in Dallas and their first tour of the great state of Texas.

Robert Krause was heard in recital this semester on February 25 (oboe, English horn and organ with Lorna Schultz) on the Texas Tech campus, on March 27 (oboe, English horn and organ) on the recital series of the First Christian Church in Amarillo. He will also give a recital on May 1 in Northern Recital Hall.

Mary Ruth McCulley will be attending the Music Teachers National Association convention in Houston in March. She is busily involved with an Adult Choir Festival on April 17 hosted by Polk Street Methodist Church. Many of you will remember that Room 112 of the Fine Arts Building served as the music library. Well, beginning this semester this room has become the Classroom Media Resource Center for elementary music classes and the new "Introduction to Music Education" class. All holdings of books, recordings, and various teaching aids will be housed in this room. Watch us grow!

Tom Horst will be kept busy with recitals - his own and his students' this semester. (There are ten scheduled thus far. See the schedule of

events). This summer Tom plans to travel to New York to study with Morris Lang of the New York Philharmonic and with Norbert Goldberg.

The premiere of **Joe Nelson's** *A Cantata for Band to Remember Don Baird* was scheduled for performance at the Region VI meeting of the American Society of University Composers at Texas Tech, but due to bad weather and dangerous traveling conditions, a delayed world premiere performance was given on our campus. Congratulations, Joe! This summer the Nelsons are planning a trip to Germany.

This past fall **Stanley Potter** presented a recital, *An Evening of French Music*, at Amarillo College in conjunction with the Impressionist exhibit at the Amarillo Art Center. A two-piano, eight-hand ensemble under Stanley's guidance performed the Smetana *Rondo* at the '83 SHOWCASE concert.

T. duB.

Orchestra News

The University Orchestra is looking toward another busy semester beginning with the SHOWCASE performance of Bartok's *Rumanian Folk Dances*. The first formal concert is scheduled for Sunday, February 27, to be followed by a two-day tour in the Panhandle. Included in the program will be an original composition by senior Jill McKee, a member of the viola section. Four other members will be featured in a Haydn *Sinfonie Concertante*: Molly Darden, violin; Mark Wallace, cello; Lorrie Rieth, oboe; and Johnny Hawk, bassoon.

The next major undertaking for the semester comes in the form of the spring opera, *Die Fledermaus*, after which follows the final performance of the year on Sunday, May 1.

G.G.

Piano and Organ Festival

The Fourth Annual Piano and Organ Festival was held on the W.T. campus February 26, 1983. Approximately 150 keyboard players performed memorized solos in Northern Recital Hall and in the choir room of the Fine Arts Building. Medals were awarded to those who received a 1 or Superior rating. Entrants were from many parts of Texas, New Mexico, and Oklahoma.

We were pleased to have as judges, **Peter Klaisle** of Highlands University in Las Vegas, New Mexico and **Dr. Judy Gibson** of Westminster Presbyterian Church in Amarillo. Mr. Klaisle taught at W.T. in the 1960s and it was very nice to see him again. Dr. Gibson is well known in the area for her work as staff organist at the church and both judges have had extensive teaching experience.

M.H.D.

"Showcase" Concert Grows

The 3rd Annual "Showcase of WTSU Music" was staged in the Amarillo Civic Center Auditorium January 28th. In just three years, this all-departmental concert (1983's event included 15 different performing groups) has grown to become one of the major musical events of the year. The Amarillo Civic Center Auditorium was packed and over \$7,000 was raised for the Music Scholarship Fund. Plans are already underway for the next Concert to be held Friday, April 6, 1984.

Special commendations to the Faculty Committee of Gary Garner, Mariellen Garner, Bruce Hammel, Scott Herrington, Joe Nelson, Stanley Potter, Dave Ritter, Sally Turk, and Faculty Chairman Burt Rosevear for their work in making this project such a great success.

H.H.

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