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Spring 4-28-2015

Marshall University Music Department Presents the Marshall University Symphony Orchestra, in, Symphonic Colors, Dr. Elizabeth Reed Smith, conductor

Elizabeth Reed Smith Marshall University, smither@marshall.edu

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SCHOOL of MUSIC and THEATRE

presents

The Marshall University Symphony Orchestra

in

Symphonic Colors

Dr. Elizabeth Reed Smith, conductor

Tuesday,
April 28, 2015
7:30 p.m.
Smith Recital Hall

This program is presented by the College of Arts and Media through the School of Music and Theatre with the support of student activity funds. For more information about this or other music events, please call (304) 696-3117, or view our website at www.marshall.edu/cofa/music.

Program

Festive Overture, Op. 96

Dmitri Shostakovich

(1906-1975)

Hungarian March from The Damnation of Faust

Hector Berlioz

(1803-1869)

Danzas Fantásticas

Joaquín Turina

(1882 - 1949)

Exaltación (Exaltation)
Ensueño (Daydreaming)

Orgía (Orgy)

Selections from West Side Story

Leonard Bernstein

(1918-1990) arr. Jack Mason

I Feel Pretty

Maria

Something's Coming

Tonight

One Hand, One Heart

Cool America

Concert Selections from Superman Returns

John Williams

(b.1932)

Superman Theme

and John Ottman

Memories

(b. 1964)

Rough Flight

arr. Victor López

Can You Read My Mind? (Love Theme from Superman)

Acknowledgments: Dr. Edwin Bingham, Dr. Richard Kravchak, the percussion studio

Orchestra Personnel

Violin I

Olivia Hay, concertmaster Yuhao Zhou Nathanial Ramsey Michael Wilcoxon Molly Page

Violin II

Maggie Cobb, principal Heather Taylor Kaitlyn Fulks Megan Legg Kelcey Perkins Miranda Runyon

Viola

Jacob Campbell, principal Christianna Dixon Lucia Soltis Jame McCumbee

Cello

Dean Pauley, principal Ilgin Secerli Ryan Phipps David Hay

Bass

Ryan Morgan, principal Connor Barebo William Weikle

Flute

Danielle Van Oort, principal Allison Kessinger Aaron Sowards, piccolo

Oboe

Eric Caines, principal Lena Williams Richard Kravchak, English Horn

Clarinet

Kaitlyn Miller, principal Rebekah Ricks Katrina Elliott, bass

Bassoon

Michelle McKenzie, principal Chris Kimes

Saxophone

Robert Galloway, alto Lars Swanson, alto John Seals, tenor Adam O'Neal, baritone

Horn

Christian Cremeans, co-principal Danielle Ocheltree, co-principal Matt Darnold Zachary New

Trumpet

Sean Maxwell, principal Justin Bahawi Michael Black

Trombone

John Bruce, principal Bradley Brown Brian Crawford, bass

Tuba

Anthony Reynolds

Percussion

Matthew Bradley, principal Richard Alexander Jeremy Boggs Evan Grover Jake Hunt Jonathon Shuff

Program Notes

In the fall of 1954, Shostakovich was visited by a conductor from the Bolshoi Opera Theatre, requesting a piece of music for a celebration of the October Revolution...three days hence. Shostakovich had a reputation for being able to compose quickly and thus the *Festive Overture* was finished in time. It is based loosely on Glinka's Overture to *Ruslan and Ludmila*, and lifts tunes from Shostakovich's 1934 opera *Lady Macbeth of Minsk*, which had enjoyed huge popularity for two years before being banned by the Stalinist government. Stalin, however, had died in 1953, and so perhaps Shostakovich felt a newfound sense of freedom in including material from his banned opera. The overture opens with a brass fanfare, followed by catchy melodies at break-neck tempo, with a return of the fanfare before a dazzling coda. The fanfare was used in the 1980 Moscow Olympics.

Berlioz' *Hungarian March* is based on a song by János Bihari written in honor of Ferenc Rákóczi, a Hungarian national hero. Berlioz had been advised, before an 1846 concert tour of Pest (now part of Budapest), to include a composition based on a Hungarian tune, as this was a time in which the Hungarians were intent on attaining independence from Austria. At the premiere in Pest the audience was so enthusiastic that their cheering drowned out the coda, and an encore performance fared no better. Berlioz later inserted it into his dramatic work *The Damnation of Faust* in an effort to popularize it. He had to change the plot in order to set the opening scene in Hungary.

A native of Seville, Joaquín Turina studied piano with Moritz Moszckowski and composition with Vincent d'Indy in Paris, where he became friends with Debussy and Ravel. Although the French style left its mark on him, he was encouraged by Isaac Albeniz to write in a more Spanish style. The three *Danzas Fantásticas* were originally written in 1919 for piano, but Turina orchestrated them soon after, and the first performance was of the orchestral version. The dances were inspired by José Mas's 1919 novella *La Orgía*, and Turina included quotes from the novel in the score before each movement.

"Exaltación" begins with the quote "It seemed as if the figures in that incomparable picture were moving inside the calyx of a flower." The movement begins slowly, but soon the jota dance is introduced. "Ensueño" (The guitar's string sounded the lament of a soul helpless under the weight of bitterness") uses the 5/8 rhythm of the zortzico, a Basque dance, combined with the character of an Andalucian folksong. "Orgía" is preceded by the quote "The perfume of the flowers merged with the odor of manzanilla, and from the bottom of raised glasses, full of wine incomparable as incense, joy flowed." This finale is in a gypsy flamenco style.

Leonard Bernstein's fourth musical, *West Side Story*, was a landmark in American musicals. Opening on Broadway in 1957, it soon reached the big screen, with the1961 movie earning ten Academy Awards. A New York version of *Romeo and Juliet*, the plot features Puerto Rican gangs, a Puerto Rican "Juliet," Maria, and a Polish "Romeo," Tony. It was the first musical concerned with social issues: poverty, violence, juvenile delinquency. A New York Times critic said that *West Side Story* was "a harsh ballad of the city, taut, nervous and flaring, the melodies choked apprehensively, the rhythms wild, swift and deadly." Tonight's medley is arranged by Jack Mason, an orchestrator and arranger who worked on the music for *Fanny*, *My Fair Lady*, and *Wonderful Town*.

California filmmaker/composer John Ottman composed much of the music for the 2006 movie *Superman Returns*, although it incorporated themes by John Williams from the original *Superman*. Tonight's medley was assembled by Florida music educator and arranger Victor López.

The Marshall University School of Music and Theatre is grateful for the support of many families and individuals who help to make our program strong and vibrant. If you would like to support music at Marshall through a donation to assist with student scholarships, academic travel for students and ensembles, or general program needs please contact:

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