Kennesaw State University
Wind Ensemble

Wednesday, October 15, 2014 at 8:00 p.m.
Dr. Bobbie Bailey & Family Performance Center, Morgan Hall
Twenty-first Concert of the 2014-15 Concert Season

David T. Kehler, conductor
Debra L. Traficante, guest conductor

DMITRI SHOSTAKOVICH (1906-1975)
trans. Hunsberger
Festive Overture (1954)
  Debra L. Traficante, conductor

TIELMAN SUSATO (1510-1570)
arr. Dunnigan
Selections from “The Danserye” (2002)
  I. La Morisque
  II. Bergerette
  III. Les quatre Branles
  IV. Fagot
  V. Den hoboeckens dans
  VI. Rondo & Salterelle
  VII. Ronde & Aliud
  VIII. Basse dans: Mon desir
  IX. Pavane: La Battaile

Intermission

Donald Grantham (b. 1947)
Let Evening Come (2014)
  *Georgia Premiere

DAN WELCHER (b. 1948)
Zion (1994)
program notes

**Festive Overture**, opus 96  |  Dmitri Shostakovich

Dmitri Dmitriyevich Shostakovich was a Russian composer who lived under the Soviet regime and often had a complex and difficult relationship with the Soviet government; he suffered from official denouncements of his music. Shostakovich's response to official criticism and, more importantly, the question of whether he used music as a kind of abstract dissidence is a matter of dispute. It is clear that outwardly he conformed to government policies and positions, reading speeches and putting his name to articles expressing the government line. It is also generally agreed that he disliked the regime, a view confirmed by his family and his letters to Isaak Glikman.

Shostakovich prided himself on his orchestration, which is clear, economical, and well projected. This aspect of Shostakovich's technique owes more to Gustav Mahler than Rimsky-Korsakov. His unique approach to tonality involved the use of modal scales and some astringent neo-classical harmonies à la Hindemith and Prokofiev. His music frequently includes sharp contrasts and elements of the grotesque.

His most popular works are his 15 symphonies and 15 string quartets. His works for piano include 2 piano sonatas, an early set of preludes, and a later set of 24 preludes and fugues. Other works include two operas, six concertos, and a substantial quantity of film music.

**Festive Overture** was composed in 1954, in the period between Symphony No. 10 and the *Violin Concerto*. Its American premiere was given by Maurice Abravanel, and with the Utah Symphony Orchestra on November 16, 1955. In 1956, the New York Philharmonic under Dmitri Mitropoulos presented the Overture in Carnegie Hall.

A Russian band version of the overture was released in 1958 and utilized the standard instrumentation of the Russian military band, i.e., a complete orchestral wind, brass and percussion section plus a full family of saxhorns, ranging from the Bb soprano down through the Bb contrabass saxhorn. This edition has been scored for the instrumentation of the modern American symphonic band.

**Selections from The Danserye**  |  Tielman Susato

Susato was a Renaissance Flemish composer, instrumentalist and publisher of music in Antwerp. Not much is known about his early life, but he begins appearing in various Antwerp archives of around 1530 working as a calligrapher as well as an instrumentalist: trumpet, flute and tenor pipe are listed as instruments that he owned. Susato was also an accomplished composer. He wrote (and published) several books of masses and motets, some specifically designed to be sung by young, inexperienced singers: they are for only two or three voices. Most important of his publications in terms of distribution and influence were the *Souterliedekens* of Clemens non Papa, which were metrical psalm settings in Dutch, using the tunes of popular songs. They were hugely popular in the Netherlands in the 16th century.

Completed in 1551, *The Danserye* certainly reflects Susato’s geographical position and his mild conservatism. It includes over fifty individual dances, all of which display simple textures and strict homophony (certainly not as “cosmopolitan” as similar collections printed during this time). It is believed that *The Danserye* was intended for wealthy amateur musicians, rather than professional dance musicians. Also, specific instrumentation is not indicated in the manuscript, suggesting that these melodies could be performed by whatever combination of wind and string instruments happened to be available. Thanks to the thoughtful work of arranger Patrick Dunnigan, concert bands have the opportunity to experience the colorful music of this Renaissance composer.

Regarding his modern adaptation, Patrick Dunnigan writes:

Selections from *The Danserye* is a new setting for wind band consisting of nine dances fashioned into an extended ‘symphonic suite.’ The arrangement utilizes the full resources of the modern wind band featuring various sections (or consorts of instruments) in alternation with powerful tutti passages. While the wind parts remain faithful to the original material, the dances are energized with a healthy dose of contemporary percussion effects and a significant part for acoustic guitar. This blend of sound generates a ‘new, but familiar’ element, thus making something very modern out of music that is over 450 years old. Dunnigan created this arrangement for the Florida State University Symphonic Band, which premiered this work on April 17, 2002. Jerry Junkin and the Dallas Wind Symphony presented the professional premiere of this work at the Meyerson Symphony Center (Dallas, Texas) on November 19, 2002.

**Let Evening Come**  |  Donald Grantham

Donald Grantham is the recipient of numerous awards and prizes in composition, including the Prix Lili Boulanger, the Nissim/ASCAP Orchestral Composition Prize, First Prize in the Concordia Chamber Symphony's Awards to American Composers, a Guggenheim Fellowship, three grants from the National Endowment for the Arts, three First Prizes in the NBA/William Revelli Competition, two First Prizes in the ABA/Ostwald Competition, and First Prize in the National Opera Association's Biennial Composition Competition. His music has been praised for its "elegance, sensitivity, lucidity of thought, clarity of expression and fine lyricism," in a Citation
awarded by the American Academy and Institute of Arts and Letters. In recent years his works have been performed by the orchestras of Cleveland, Dallas, Atlanta and the American Composers Orchestra among many others, and he has fulfilled commissions in media from solo instruments to opera. His music is published by Piqua nt Press, Peer-Southern, E. C. Schirmer, G. Schirmer, Warner Bros. and Mark Foster, and a number of his works have been commercially recorded. The composer resides in Austin, Texas, and is Frank C. Erwin, Jr. Centennial Professor of Composition at the University of Texas at Austin. With Kent Kennan he is coauthor of The Technique Of Orchestration (Prentice-Hall).

Written in 2014, this performance of Let Evening Come serves as the Georgia premiere of this work and was inspired by the serene and tender poem by Jane Kenyon.

Let Evening Come
by Jane Kenyon (1947-1995)

Let the light of the late afternoon
shine through chinks in the barn, moving,
up the bales as the sun moves down.

Let the fox go back to its sandy den.
Let the wind die down. Let the shed
go black in side. Let evening come.

Let the cricket take up chafing
as a woman takes up her needles
and her yarn. Let evening come.

To the bottle in the ditch, to the scoop
in the oats, to the air in the lung
let evening come.

Let dew collect on the hoe abandoned
In long grass. Let the stars appear
And the moon disclose her silver horn.

Let it come, as it will, and don’t
be afraid. God does not leave us
comfortless, so let evening come.

Zion  I  Dan Welcher

Dan Welcher first trained as a pianist and bassoonist, earning degrees from the Eastman School of Music and the Manhattan School of Music. He joined the Louisville Orchestra as its Principal Bassoonist in 1972, and remained there until 1978, concurrently teaching composition and theory at the University of Louisville. He joined the Artist Faculty of the Aspen Music Festival in the summer of 1976, teaching bassoon and composition, and remained there for fourteen years. He accepted a position on the faculty at the University of Texas in 1978, creating the The New Music Ensemble there and serving as Assistant Conductor of the Austin Symphony Orchestra from 1980 to 1990. It was in Texas that his career as a conductor began to flourish, and he has led the premieres of more than 120 new works since 1980. He now holds the Lee Hage Jamail Regents Professorship in Composition at the School of Music at UT/Austin, teaching Composition and serving as Director of the New Music Ensemble.

His works for symphonic wind ensemble, notably Zion (which won the ABA/Ostwald Prize in 1996) and Symphony No. 3 ("Shaker Life") have earned him new accolades in non-orchestral venues. Newer works for the wind band include Perpetual Song (2000), commissioned by the West Point Band, Songs Without Words (2001), commissioned by the College Band Directors' National Association and Minstrels of the Kells (2002), commissioned by the bands of the Big Twelve Universities.

Dan Welcher has won numerous awards and prizes from institutions such as the American Academy of Arts and Letters (Arts and Letters Award in Music, 2012), Guggenheim Foundation (a Fellowship in 1997), National Endowment for the Arts, The Reader's Digest/Lila Wallace Foundation, the Rockefeller Foundation, the MacDowell Colony, Yaddo, The Bellagio Center in Bellagio, Italy, the Ligurian Study Center in Bogliasco, Italy, the American Music Center, and ASCAP. His orchestral music has been performed by more than fifty orchestras, including the Chicago Symphony, the St. Louis Symphony, and the Atlanta Symphony. He lives in Bastrop, Texas, and travels widely to conduct and to teach.

The composer writes:

Zion is the third and final installment of a series of works for wind ensemble inspired by national parks in the western United States, collectively called Three Places in the West. As in the other two works (The Yellowstone Fires and Arches), it is my intention to convey more an impression of the feelings I've had in Zion National Park in Utah than an attempt at a pictorial description. Zion is a place with unrivaled natural grandeur, being a sort of huge box canyon in which the traveller is constantly overwhelmed by towering rock walls on every side - but it is also a place with a human history, having been inhabited by several tribes of Native Americans before the arrival of the Mormon settlers in the mid-nineteenth century. By the time the Mormons reached Utah, they had been driven all the way from New York State through Ohio and through their tragic losses in Missouri. The saw Utah in general as "a place nobody wanted" but were nonetheless determined to keep it to themselves. Although Zion Canyon was never a "Mormon Stronghold," the people who reached it and claimed it (and gave it its present name) had been through extreme trials.

It is the religious fervor of these persecuted people that I was able to draw upon in creating Zion as a piece of music. There are two quoted hymns in the work: Zion's Walls (which Aaron Copland adapted to his own purposes in both Old American Songs and The Tender Land) and Zion's Security, which I found in the same volume where Copland found Zion's Walls - that inexhaustible storehouse of nineteenth century hymnody called The Sacred Harp. Zion was commissioned in 1994 by the wind ensembles of the University of Texas at Arlington, the University of Texas at Austin, and the University of Oklahoma. It is dedicated to the memory of Aaron Copland.
Formed in 1996, the Kennesaw State University Wind Ensemble performs a diverse repertoire encompassing large works for band, wind ensemble repertoire, and chamber music. The KSU Wind Ensemble continues to lead in supporting and creating consortiums for the development of new music, which have included the creation of new works by Steven Bryant, Michael Markowski, Joel Puckett, James Stephenson, Christopher Theofanidis, and an upcoming commission by Pulitzer Prize winner, Joseph Schwantner. In addition, leading composers including Chen Yi, and Pulitzer Prize winner David Lang have visited and worked directly with the Ensemble and its students.

Because of KSU’s continued close relationship with the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra, Georgia Symphony Orchestra and Atlanta Opera Orchestra, collaborations and performances have resulted with many of those principal players. The KSU Wind Ensemble continues to serve as an important musical voice in the Atlanta Metropolitan area, and has been featured frequently on 90.1 FM (WABE-Atlanta public radio), and has garnered praise from leading composers including Jennifer Higdon, Karel Husa, David Lang, David Maslanka, Scott McAllister, and others. In 2012, the KSU Wind Ensemble was a featured ensemble and hosted the Southern Division College Band Directors /National Band Association Conference. In 2013, the KSU Wind Ensemble was the Winner for the American Prize for best wind ensemble/concert band performance in the United States.
Debra Traficante has served Kennesaw State University as newly appointed Associate Director of Bands/ Director of Athletic Bands since the summer of 2014. Here, Dr. Traficante guides and directs all aspects of the soon to be premiered KSU Marching Band. Along with working directly with the Director of Bands, Professor Traficante also serves as the Conductor of the KSU Concert Band and teaches courses in beginning instrumental conducting and marching band techniques.

Dr. Traficante formerly served as Assistant Professor of Music/Assistant Director of University Bands at the University of Oklahoma where she conducted the Symphony Band, taught conducting lessons to graduate and undergraduate students, graduate courses, served as the lead teacher for the undergraduate conducting and methods course, and oversaw music education students. She also served as the Music Minor advisor, the Honors College Music Coordinator, the faculty sponsor for Sigma Alpha Iota, and the faculty sponsor for the Delta Chapters of Kappa Kappa Psi and Tau Beta Sigma.

Professor Traficante earned her Bachelor of Music in Music Education, cum laude, from the University of Florida (Gainesville, FL), a Master of Music degree in Wind Band Conducting from the University of Florida, and earned a Fellowship to pursue a Doctor of Musical Arts in Wind Band Conducting degree from the University of Oklahoma (Norman, OK).

Dr. Traficante began her service as Assistant Director of University Bands at the University of Oklahoma in 2009 and served as Interim Director of The Pride of Oklahoma Marching Band in the spring of 2013. She served as Director of Bands for five years at New Smyrna Beach High School, Florida, and Assistant Director of Bands for two years at Buchholz High School, Florida.

Dr. Traficante frequently judges, guest conducts, and clinics ensembles across the United States, and has conducted at the International World Association for Symphonic Bands and Ensembles Conference in Singapore in 2005. Professor Traficante is the immediate past National Vice President of Professional Relations for Tau Beta Sigma, and an Honorary Member of the Delta Chapters of the Kappa Kappa Psi National Band Fraternity and Tau Beta Sigma National Band Sorority. Additionally, she was honored in 2010 as a Distinguished Member in Sigma Alpha Iota and has been awarded the Martha Starke Memorial Scholarship for Women Conductors.

David T. Kehler, since 2009, has served as Director of Bands and Associate Professor of Music at Kennesaw State University where he oversees all aspects of the University’s band program while serving as Music Director and Conductor of the KSU Wind Ensemble. During his short tenure, the KSU Wind Ensemble has been featured several times on 90.1 FM (WABE- Atlanta public radio), and has garnered praise from composers including Steven Bryant, Jennifer Higdon, Karel Husa, David Maslanka, Scott McAllister and Joel Puckett. Under professor Kehler’s guidance, the KSU Wind Ensemble continues to lead in composer consortiums, which have included the creation of new works by Steven Bryant, Michael Markowski, Joel Puckett, James Stephenson, Christopher Theofanidis, and an upcoming commission by Pulitzer Prize winner, Joseph Schwantner. In 2012, Kennesaw State University hosted the Southern Division College Band Directors National Association/National Band Association Conference, and the KSU Wind Ensemble was a featured ensemble. Most recently, the KSU Wind Ensemble was awarded the 2013 American Prize for Best Wind Ensemble/Concert Band Performance in the United States.

Previous teaching appointments were at Southern Methodist University, The University of Rhode Island, and Bay City Western High School, in Bay City, Michigan. Dr. Kehler received his Bachelor and Master of Music degrees from Michigan State University and his Doctor of Musical Arts degree from The University of Texas at Austin. During his tenure in Texas, Dr. Kehler also served America’s Premier Windband; The Dallas Wind Symphony as Associate Conductor. In addition, from 1999-2009, Dr. Kehler was Founder and Conductor of the GDYO Wind Symphony, an ensemble affiliated with the Greater Dallas Youth Orchestras, Inc. Serving as its music director for ten years, the GDYO Wind Symphony established itself as one of the premier youth wind ensembles in the United States. They were a featured ensemble at the Texas Bandmasters Association/National Band Association Convention in San Antonio, Texas, and were heard internationally on From the Top, a syndicated radio program featuring the finest young classical musicians in the country. In addition, the GDYO Wind Symphony participated in exchange concerts with the Atlanta Youth Wind Symphony and performed with Jeff Nelson, former horn of the Canadian Brass. In the summer of 2008, the GDYO Wind Symphony embarked on an extensive two-week tour of China, performing at the music conservatories of Shanghai, Xian, Beijing, and Hong Kong.
The School of Music at KSU has dedicated, vibrant, and talented faculty and staff that are completely devoted to teaching, performing, scholarship, and serving our community. It is an incredibly exciting place to study, boasting state-of-the-art facilities with opportunities to produce and explore music in a dynamic place that is ahead of the curve for what it means to be a musician in the 21st century. Our students come from the leading musical honor organizations across the region and are poised to lead the cultural offerings and musical education in our area and beyond for years to come.

We welcome you to attend a concert, meet our faculty and staff, and feel the energy and excitement that our students exude. We are fully committed to our purpose as educators, performers, and scholars. We hope that you will find as much enjoyment in our product as we do in producing it.

Michael Alexander
Interim Director, KSU School of Music

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upcoming events

Unless otherwise noted, all events will take place at 8:00 pm in Morgan Concert Hall.

Monday, October 20
Guest Artists: Georgian Chamber Players

Saturday, November 1
KSU Orchestral Concert Invitational

Monday, November 3
KSU Jazz Ensembles

Faculty Recital: Helen Kim, violin with Robert Henry, piano

Wednesday, October 29
KSU Jazz Combos and Jazz Guitar Ensemble

Tuesday, November 4
KSU Concerto Competition Finals

Thursday, October 30
KSU Gospel Choir

Wednesday, November 5
KSU Classical Guitar Ensemble

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