WALNUT CREEK CONCERT BAND WCCB

Walnut Creek Concert Band Presents

California Dreamin'

Tuesday, July 20, 2021 – 7:30 PM Lesher Center for the Arts Harvey Benstein, Music Director and Conductor

Program

Pop and Rock Legends: The Mamas and the Papas

arr. Ted Ricketts

Monday, Monday, Dream a Little Dream of Me, California Dreamin'

Yosemite Autumn

Mark Camphouse (1954)

"No temple made with hands can compare with Yosemite. Every rock in its walls seems to glow with life..." John Muir

Golden Gate March

Edwin Franko Goldman (1878-1956)

I Left My Heart in San Francisco

George Cory and Douglass Cross

Transcribed by Alfred Reed

I left my heart in San Francisco, High on a hill, it calls to me
To be where little cable cars climb halfway to the stars, The morning fog may chill the air, I don't care
My love waits there in San Francisco, Above the blue and windy sea
When I come home to you, San Francisco, Your golden sun will shine for me

California Suite John Wesley Gibson (1946)

Highway One: The long California Coast line is a remarkable and beautiful thing to see. It is both attractive and foreboding. Traveling up Highway One, just out of reach of the Pacific Ocean on the precipice of the coast, constantly changing vistas that are always different and always the same pass by an eternal oceanic rhythm that suspends the sense of time.

Heritage Grove: Heritage Grove is a stand of old-growth redwoods on Alpine Road, between Palo Alto and La Honda. It is a natural cathedral where elder trees, many hundreds of years old, assisted by novitiates, only a few hundred years old, cantilever the sky so it doesn't splash into the earth. A life-giving creek flows through the apse of the grove and a simple alter at the base of one of the greatest giants is lit by sunlight only at noon.

The Ash Grove Julie Giroux (1961)

In Loving Memory of Dr. Eric Hammer

"This popular folk song dating back to John Gay's Opera "The Beggars Opera" in 1728 then later published in 1802 in a book titled "The Bardic Museum" by harpist Edward Jones has inspired many settings and lyrics over the centuries. There is a possibility that it dates back to a 1665 dance tune titled "Constant Billy." In the 1806 Welsh version "Llwyn Onn" the lyrics tell of a love between a sailor and Gwen of Llywn which ends with the sailor mourning her death as she lies "...neath the shades of the lonely ash grove." The most popular setting to date features the lyrics by Thomas Oliphant. The Ash Grove has served as several hymns including a Thanksgiving hymn, a Christmas tune and was also used in a setting for a Roman Catholic mass.

The ash tree itself is heavily rooted in Celtic, Welsh and even Viking history and myths. It is the second most popular tree growing beside Irish holy wells and on the Isle of Man, ash trees were said to protect the purity of springs. It is also the most common tree in England.

This particular re-imagining of The Ash Grove introduces several thematic motifs inspired by the original melody. While this work is full of hemiolas and time signature changes, the beat stays constant. Many of the hemiola filled sections are so long, it could have been scored 3/4 time for some players while at the

same time also being scored in 6/8 time for others. Since the different meters following these sections depended on one time signature over the other for a smooth transition, it is easier to read as long hemiolas.

Playful and full of folly, this Ash Grove setting does not focus on the almost always mournful lyrics but on the Ash Grove itself; a place of mystery, magic, renewal, myth and happiness. Eric Hammer loved the idea of this setting and was happy about its origins being centered on trees. I was torn on staying with the original ideas we discussed or writing something completely different after Eric left this world. In the end, I went with our conversations about The Ash Grove and the journey we were going to take together", Julie Giroux.

INTERMISSION

Danzon No.2

Arturo Marquez (1950) Transcribed by Oliver Nickel

The idea of writing the *Danzón No. 2* originated in 1993 during a trip to Malinalco with the painter Andrés Fonseca and the dancer Irene Martínez, both of whom are experts in salon dances with a special passion for the *danzón*, which they were able to transmit to me from the beginning, and also during later trips to Veracruz and visits to the Colonia Salon in Mexico City. From these experiences onward, I started to learn the danzón's rhythms, its form, its melodic outline, and to listen to the old recordings by Acerina and his Danzonera Orchestra. I was fascinated and I started to understand that the apparent lightness of the *danzón* is only like a visiting card for a type of music full of sensuality and qualitative seriousness, a genre which old Mexican people continue to dance with a touch of nostalgia and a jubilant escape towards their own emotional world; we can fortunately still see this in the embrace between music and dance that occurs in the state of Veracruz and in the dance parlors of Mexico City. The *Danzón No.2* is a tribute to the environment that nourishes the genre. It endeavors to get as close as possible to the dance, to its nostalgic melodies, to its wild rhythms, and although it violates its intimacy, its form and its harmonic language, it is a very personal way of paying my respects and expressing my emotions towards truly popular music. *Danzón No. 2* was written on a commission by the Department of Musical Activities at Mexico's National Autonomous University and is dedicated to my daughter Lily. *Program Note by composer*

Irish Rhapsody

Clare Grundman (1913-1996)

The Moreen, I Know Where I'm Going, The Shepherd's Lamb Reel, Cockles and Mussels, The Rakes of Mallow, Kathleen O'More

Hitsville, USA arr. John Wasson

During the 1960s, **Motown** achieved 79 records in the top-ten of the Billboard Hot 100 between 1960 and 1969. Following the events of the Detroit Riots of 1967, and the loss of key songwriting/production team Holland–Dozier–Holland that year over pay disputes, Gordy **moved Motown** to **Los Angeles in 1972**.

Stop! In the Name of Love, I Can't Help Myself (Sugar Pie, Honey Bunch), My Girl,
I Heard it Through the Grapevine, Got to be There, The Way You Do The Things You Do,
Reach Out and Touch (Somebody's Hand), Superstition, Living For the City, Some Day We'll Be Together,
Baby I Need Your Lovin'.

Pathfinder of Panama

John Philip Sousa (1854-1932)

The completion of the Panama Canal in 1915 was celebrated by the Panama-Pacific Exposition World's Fair in San Francisco. (This expo also served as the host city's "coming out party" following the reconstruction which commenced following the devastating 1906 earthquake). As he was so many times before, John Philip Sousa was approached to compose an original march in honor of the World's Fair. Here is another classic example of Sousa's knack for casting personality upon what otherwise is dismissed as a perfunctory genre of music; The Pathfinder of Panama is no ordinary march. It possesses the craft and character of a classical symphony economized into a brief three-minute foray of turn of the century nostalgia.

Join us on Labor Day for a Free ParKoncert at 6PM in Civic Park

Walnut Creek Concert Band Personnel

Membership in the Walnut Creek Concert Band is open to adult musicians from the greater Walnut Creek area. If you are interested in becoming part of our band contact us at: WCCBPersonnel@gmail.com or visit our website at www.walnutcreekconcertband.org.

All Musicians Welcome! Follow us and Like us on FACEBOOK.

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Liece Benstein
Thomas DiSanto, Chief Administrative Officer
Loren Kayfetz, Senior Wealth Advisor
Alex La Mar, Student SMC
Sara Stafford*, Music Educator
Michele Thompson, Loan Officer, Ret.
Annette Ventura, Math Tutor

OBOE

Ronald Kerst*, (English Horn) Joan McDavid, Educator

BASSOON

Jason Davis*, (Contrabassoon), Marketing Director Janet Zingale, Pharmacist

CLARINET

Christy Bailes, USAF Retired
Josie Bromley, Music Educator
Debbie Frasier, Chemistry Instructor
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Danielle Napoleon, (Eb Clarinet), Program Analyst
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Jan Schmedinghoff, Domestic Engineer
John Toyama

BASS CLARINET

Valerie Abad, School Director Dave Ferree, Retired

ALTO SAXOPHONE

Brian Olson, (Soprano Saxophone) Telecom Engineer Shawn Usedom*, Shipping and Receiving Coordinator

TENOR SAXOPHONE

Robert Kaplan, Psychologist

BARITONE SAXOPHONE

Teresa Minervini, Material Control Specialist (Fire Protection)

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Julie Morgan, Urban Planner

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