11-17-2006

UA68/9/1 Music - Founders Day Concert Program

WKU Department of Music

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Van Meter Auditorium
Friday, November 17th, 2006
7:30 pm

Centennial Composers
Paul Basler
Bennie Beach, Sr.
Michael Kallstrom
David Livingston
Charles Smith

WKU Faculty Woodwind Quintet
WKU Faculty Brass Quintet
WKU Jazz Band
WKU University Choir
WKU Wind Ensemble
WKU Chamber Singers
The eight poems are by the immensely talented California-based artist, Gabriel Navar, whose work is noted for its sensual imagery. Drama features prominently in Divine Days and text painting abounds, highlighting Navar's beautiful poetry. This is the second time I have set Gabriel Navar's poetry, the first being the large scale Cantos Alegres (Joyful Songs) for solo bari-
tone, choir, horn, piano and percussion commissioned by the Master Chorale of Tampa Bay. The musical inspiration for Divine Days comes from a short piano piece I wrote for Manuel de Jesus Germin on July 4, 1999 titled Canción. I have incorporated Canción into several compositions since them, including one of my most performed choral works, Amor que une con el amor grandísimo (Love that unites me with the greatest love) text again by Gabriel Navar and my most recent horn and piano work, Reflections. It is presented in its entirety at the opening of Divine Days and then comes back at pivotal moments throughout the work. When asked by WKU to write a piece for choir and band I wanted to showcase both groups and not have the band simply serve in an accompanying manner. There are 2 extended dances for band alone as well as a modified version of the Canción in the middle of the composition. The primary poetic images in Divine Days are that of nature, night, dusk and love that is pure and unconditional. Divine Days is published by Colla Voce Music.

**Program Notes**

**Divine Days** was written for and commissioned by Western Kentucky University for its 2006 Centennial Celebration. The eight poems are by the immensely talented California-based artist, Gabriel Navar, whose work is noted for its sensual imagery. Drama features prominently in Divine Days and text painting abounds, highlighting Navar’s beautiful poetry. This is the second time I have set Gabriel Navar’s poetry, the first being the large scale Cantos Alegres (Joyful Songs) for solo bari-
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his juices are pure
they awaken in me
a constant
awakening
Here is the day
I hear the song of violet
light
the clouds seem to smile
when the moon
undresses
in the clear
nocturnal sky
I hear the melody of the
grass with its breeze
the flavor of watermelons
the celestial veil has arrived
it accompanies like a
strong
familiar embrace,
like the navel of a
continuous dream
that reminds me that
here is
the day
Within the sweet affectionate night
the constant awakening
between my shoulders
open once again
the yellow door
is a smile, spring-time
promise, entrance of light
the space is a cosmic palace
behind the eyes
on the tip of the tongue
and in the poetry of the fingers
the air is a garden
within my days
it opens once more
the sea of ideas
is a cathedral, spring-time
promise, entrance of love
the space is a rose palace
behind the eyes
that kiss the sweet
affectionate night

A good lunar kiss
I love the night ... and
enchanted I am
when the flame of a
single match dances its
orange dance in front
of your face
light from the stars
carries your face
like a slow lick
of water over the sand of the sea

I love the sky ... and
drunk I am
with joy when
the white lunar kiss
forms a good home
of dreams
in your face
light from your eyes
warm my insides
like a slow awakening
that celebrates the light of
the sun
Dance No.2 (Band alone)

New day
the circular atmosphere
flowers within my eyes
and enters the womb
of a new day...
its red aromas
guide my nose
and strengthen my vision...
i surrender to happiness !!
i close my eyes
the color is like the prickly pear of the
cactus-
I open all the doors;
may the sweet affectionate night enter !!
the waters sleep
warmly
within my shoulders...
they reflect the circular atmosphere
of the new day.
its skin sugar
and rose...
rose...

WKU Jazz Band
Dr. Marshall Scott, director

Murf Adams
Athena Akin
Jonathan Blum
Jessica Broady, Campbell Scholar

Anibdy Bush, Baker & Paul Scholar
Matthew Drobne
Ricky Dudiasen
Jenny Dust
Matthew Hooper

Michael Kinder
John Paul Lack
Chris Osborne, Beach Scholar

WKU Wind Ensemble
Dr. John Carmichael, director

Susan Abel
Murf Adams
Athena Akin
Holly Barnes
Jonathan Blum
Anastasia Bogach
Jessica Broady
Philip Brock
Jennifer Brooks
Corey Bynum
Anibdy Bush
Jeremiah Bush
Jonas Butler
Kyle Cain
Grant Calvert
Jonathan Clary
Justin Combs

James Conley
Chris Creed
Samuel Devore
Matthew Devore
Ricky Dudiasen
Jeremy Dust
Lyndsey Dye
Karl Dwyer
Nathan Edwards
Laura Galipeau
Melissa Geier
Cage Scholar
Cody Gliborn
Erik Goet, Pease Scholar
Courtney Greenfield
Rebecca Harlow
Matthew Hooper
Charles Jimell
Erika Sellers

Michael Kinder
Matt Fressell
John Paul Lack
Ashley Lewis
Meredith Lopez, Weidstein Scholar
Steven Lopez
Jessa Mayy
Joshua Morton
Kara Ogilvy
Chris Osborne
David Phillips
Tony Puckett
Mary Alice Ratzall
Billy Rich
Paul Reitam
Paul Reitam
Erika Sellers

WKU University Choir
Dr. Paul Hondorp, director

Leigh Anderson
Desmond Anthony
Will Armour -
Tylor Ayers
Melisa Bailey
Leigh Bales
Elizabeth Beach
Barry Blair
Katherine Brit
Joshua Browning
Bobby Buchanan
Kelly Bums
Sarah Cappio
Jennifer Chapman
Lindsay Cline

Ashley Dickinson
Amy Farrell
Drew Givan
Brittany Good
Lindsay Hamed, Griggs Scholar
Heidi Lauren
Daniel Hildon
Joseph Hussey
Sara Jett
Rachael Kibbeleisen
Aaron Kister
Drew Kovac
Matthew Lawrence
Audrey Ligon
Elizabeth Lutte

Steven Lopez, Hunter Scholar
Amy Farrell
Gregory McCloud
Katherine Michael
Meghan Montemayor
Broton Murphy
Jordan Norinas
Calvin Pugs
Rachel Norton
Calvin Pugs
Chris Powell
Mary Alice Ratzall, Music Faculty
And Hunter Scholar
Cheri Reed
Tony Richardson
Courtney Richardson

WKU Chamber Singers
Dr. Paul Hondorp, director

Leigh Anderson
Will Armour
Tylor Ayers
Barry Blair
Caitlin Derman
Amy Farrell
M. H. Travlestead Scholar

Drew Givan
Heather Heim
Drew Kovac
Audrey Ligon
Gregory McCloud
Meghan Montemayor

Bromson Murphy, Speegleman Scholar
Cheri Reed
Tony Richardson
Courtney Richardson

Matt Shores
Stephen Shultz
Stephanie Siedentopf
Cassandra Smith
Susan Spencer
Jonathon Slapens
Rachel Stewart, Kinerson Scholar
Jim Stites
Daniel Thomas
Vicki Thompson
Brittany Todd
Michelle Underhill
Nick Warren
Chris Westover
Megan Weat
Tiffany Wood

William Ribson
Roberto Rivera
Jacob Senseig
Aaron Sanders
Joshua Snell
Hannah Somers
Jethro Stewart
Sara Taylor
Adam Vincent
Blake Washington
Kelley Watkins
Emily White
Jane Wilson
Valerie Wink
Margo Yoostbridge
The ideals on which Western Kentucky University were founded were first declared by Dr. Henry Hardin Cherry, the founder and first president of the university. November 16, the birth date of President Cherry, was designated as Founders Day in 1931. Since that time, there have been Founders Day celebrations as a time when special tribute is paid to the great founder and to others who have made outstanding contributions to the growth and development of WKU.

The recipient of the North Carolina Arts Council Composer's Fellowship and several National Endowment for the Arts Composer grants, Basler's compositions have been performed throughout the world. Recent compositions have received performances at Carnegie Hall, Tanglewood, Orchestra Hall in Boston, the Spoleto Festival, Symphony Hall in Chicago, Kennedy Center, the National Theaters of the Dominican Republic and Kenya, Lincoln Center, the Sydney Opera House, the Aspen Music Festival, the Grand Teton Music Festival and in Shanghai by the Shanghai Philharmonic.

He has had two premiere performances at Carnegie Hall, and was an active member of the National Association of College Wind and Percussion Teachers and the National Federation of Musicians. Mr. Beach was inducted into the WKU Department of Music Wall of Fame Award in 1998.

For the past 5 years, he has been Composer-in-Residence for the Bowling Green Chamber Orchestra.

All of the Centennial Commissioned music will be compiled into a Centennial CD that will become a momento of this year-long music celebration on the hill at Western Kentucky University.
College Heights

College Heights on hill-top fair with beauty all thine own,
College Heights with living soul and purpose strong and true,
College Heights thy noble life shall e'er our pattern be,

CHORUS

Love's jewel far more rare than graces any throne,
Teaching us through joy and strife to love humanity.

We hail Thee, we shall never fail Thee.

Faith ever, live forever.

Hail! Hail! Hail!