



Solano Winds
Community Concert Band

presents

LAND SEA AIR

SPACE

Friday, April 30, 2010

8:00 P.M.

Fairfield Center for Creative Arts
1035 West Texas Street, Fairfield

Solano Winds Community Concert Band
www.solanowinds.org

WELCOME!

Welcome to the final installment in the 2009-2010 season for the Solano Winds Community Concert Band! In our preceding three concerts this year, we have featured the music of Land, Sea, and Air. Tonight, we conclude our celebration of physical modalities with the grandest zone of all: Space!

As we've traced the music of Land, then Sea, and then Air, we've noticed shorter and shorter histories of the exploration of each of these places, due to the necessary technology to get on the water or propelled into flight. Space, of course, is the newest frontier. But while man has only recently visited Space, the fascination has been around for centuries. Our music tonight reflects that longtime yearning for this most exquisite journey, with music from Strauss and Holst all the way to Sousa and the now classic themes from the Star Wars movies.

It's been a fascinating journey throughout the year. Thank you for joining us in our musical travels!

Bill Doherty
Music Director

BILL DOHERTY - MUSIC DIRECTOR

In 1994, as Bob Briggs was beginning his last year before retirement as Director of the University of California Band, Bill Doherty suggested to him that they start a community band in Fairfield. A year later, that vision became a reality as Bob founded Solano Winds. Bill served as the first President of the group and helped to formalize the behind-the-scenes workings of the band while playing principal trumpet. Upon the passing of Robert O. Briggs in September 2008, Bill was named Music Director of Solano Winds.

Bill played in the Cal Band under Bob's leadership while earning his Bachelor of Arts in Music from the University of California at Berkeley. He taught band for eleven years, including a three-year stay at Vanden High School, before adding mathematics to his teaching credential. In addition to his high school bands, Bill conducted the Berkeley Symphonic Band from 1985 to 1989. Currently, he teaches mathematics and assists teachers in their use of instructional technology at Campolindo High School in Moraga. He lives in Fairfield with his wife, Jennifer, who teaches music in Fairfield and plays percussion in Solano Winds, and enjoys spending time with his three children.

PROGRAM

- Also Sprach Zarathustra Richard Strauss
Transcribed by R. Mark Rogers
- Flight Brian Balmages
- Toward a Northern Star Gary Gilroy
- Music from Apollo 13 James Horner
Arranged by John Moss
- Suite from The Star Wars Epic John Williams
Arranged by Robert W. Smith
- I. Duel of the Fates
 - II. Across the Stars
 - III. Revenge of the Sith
 - IV. Princess Leia's Theme
 - V. The Imperial March/The Forest Battle
 - VI. Star Wars (Main Title)

Intermission

- The Golden Star John Philip Sousa
- To A New Dawn Phillip Sparke
Guest Conductor - Alan Sybert
- Blue Moon Richard Rodgers and Lorenz Hart
Arranged by Warren Barker
Guest Vocalist - Kim Nemson
- The Planets Gustav Holst
- Mars
 - Uranus
 - Jupiter

PROGRAM NOTES

Also Sprach Zarathustra

In addition to being a masterful musician, Richard Strauss was a shrewd businessman. He capitalized on the public's infatuation with a controversial work of literary controversy, Friedrich Nietzsche's *Also Sprach Zarathustra* by composing a tone poem of the same title. The overall work was futuristic in its harmonic writing, and greatly influenced other musicians such as Béla Bartók and Fritz Reiner.

The music continues to evoke a sense of "the future", and became popular again when Stanley Kubrick produced the feature film "2001: A Space Odyssey" in the 1970s and used Strauss' introduction to *Also Sprach Zarathustra* to herald the forthcoming contact between men and extra-terrestrials. Since the movie, many know this opening section simply as "Fanfare from 2001".

Flight

On October 4, 2004, SpaceShipOne (built by the Tier One Private Manned Space Program) won the 10 million dollar Ansari X-Prize, becoming the first private manned spacecraft to exceed an altitude of 62 miles (328,000 feet) twice within the span of two weeks. The X-Prize was designed to encourage developments in commercial air travel. *Flight* commemorates the exciting second flight that won the X-Prize. Pilot Brian Binnie experienced weightlessness for approximately 3.5 minutes during this second flight.

This work is in the style of a minimalistic fanfare. There are essentially three main sections that correspond with the three main segments of the flight: launch to space, reaching the apogee, and return to the atmosphere.

Toward a Northern Star

Gary Gilroy and Bill Doherty got to know each other as High School Band Directors in Stanislaus County in the 1980s. Gary built a nationally respected program at Fred C. Beyer High School in Modesto before going on to earn his Doctorate at the University of Oregon in 1995. Gary was appointed Director of the Bulldog Marching Band at California State University, Fresno, in 1993, and in 2006 was named Director of Bands. Dr. Gilroy also writes music for concert and marching bands, and frequently serves as a guest conductor for student honor bands.

Music from "Apollo 13"

Forty years ago this month, Apollo 13 launched into orbit with its crew of three. Two days later, its lunar landing was aborted when an explosion severely damaged the spacecraft. When the crew was safely returned to Earth three

days later, the flight was termed a “successful failure”.

Twenty five years later, Ron Howard directed an all-star cast in the film “Apollo 13”. It enjoyed great box office success, and James Horner was nominated for “Best Original Score” at the 68th Academy Awards. This collection from the movie contains themes from the Main Title, the End Credits, and from “Re-Entry and Splashdown”.

Suite from The Star Wars Epic

The Star Wars movie phenomenon has captured the imaginations of three generations of movie fans worldwide. Beginning in 1977 with the release of Episode IV: A New Hope, the vision of George Lucas, combined with the music of John Williams, has resulted in the most successful series of films and the most recognized soundtrack in history.

Robert W. Smith has drawn upon the imagination of John Williams and George Lucas to create this Suite, which includes music from all six movie episodes. The work is dedicated to John Williams, whose life’s work and musical legacy will endure for centuries to come.

The Golden Star

Sousa wrote The Golden Star in 1919. It was termed a dirge (slow march), and was dedicated to Mrs. Theodore Roosevelt “in memory of the brave who gave their lives that liberty shall not perish”. President and Mrs. Roosevelt’s son, Quentin, was killed in World War I. This dedication explains the familiar melody played by the trumpets after the introduction.

To A New Dawn

To A New Dawn was commissioned by the United States Continental Army Band - Captain Timothy J. Holtan, Commander and Conductor. The brief was for a piece to celebrate the 3rd Millennium and it was the composer’s aim to provide a work which, as well as looking forward to the challenges of the new century, also contained moments of reflection about the last one.

Blue Moon

The earliest recorded English use of the term “blue moon” was from a 1528 pamphlet attacking the English clergy, entitled “Rede Me and Be Not Wrothe” (“Read me and be not angry”): “Yf they say the mone is belewe / We must believe that it is true”. More contemporary uses refer to the second full moon in a month as a blue moon.

Richard Rodgers and Lorenz Hart presumably referred to the expression “once in a blue moon”, which means very rarely. The narrator in the song is relating a stroke of luck so unlikely that it must have taken place under a blue

moon. It has been recorded by countless vocalists: Mel Torme’s version in 1949 hit number 20 on the Billboard charts, where it lasted for five weeks.

The Planets

Clifford Bax introduced Gustav Holst to astrology while the two were on holiday together in 1913. Holst took a liking to the subject, and liked to cast his friends’ horoscopes for fun. He used the book *What Is A Horoscope?* as a springboard for his own ideas, and for the subtitles (i.e., The Bringer of Jollity) for the movements of this piece.

The entire suite, composed in 1915, consists of seven movements, each representing a planet other than Earth. Pluto, of course, was only a planet from 1930 until 2006! When presented in its entirety, the movements are sequenced according to their distance from our own planet. Tonight, we present three movements, in ascending order of their mass.

MEMBER PROFILES

In each program we feature profiles on two of our players, written by Otto Vasak, board member, retired chemical engineer, and long time player in Solano Winds.

MARCUS MILLS

Marcus Mills lives in Fairfield and plays alto saxophone with Fairfield’s community concert band, the *Solano Winds*. Although Marcus was born in Honolulu, Hawaii, he attended elementary school in Ozark,, middle school in Jonesborough, Tennessee and graduated from Armijo High School in Fairfield.

Marcus started playing the sax and piano when he was in elementary school. At Armijo High School, he played in the wind ensemble and the jazz band. As a junior and senior, he held the coveted role of drum major for the Armijo Superband.

Marcus obtained a Bachelor of Arts degree in Music with an emphasis on Saxophone Performance at Sacramento State University. He received an M.Ed. degree in Cross Cultural Teaching, along with his teaching credential from National University.

While in college, Marcus played with Sacramento State’s premier wind studies program, the 55 member Symphonic Wind Ensemble, which played a showcase concert at New York’s Carnegie Hall. Marcus joined the *Solano Winds* three years ago and is currently on the band’s board of directors. He acts as one of the *school liaisons*, whose goal is to promote music with students in Solano County

Formerly Marcus was Assistant Band Director at Armijo High School and taught English at Mary Bird Community Day School. He currently teaches

English and technology at MIT Academy in Vallejo – and is the director for their Championship Color Guard. In addition to his duties at school, he serves as a competition adjudicator for the Northern California Band Association.

As outside interests, he likes to go to the movies, travel, cook, and loves restaurants of all types. Of course, music is a big factor in his life.

SAMANTHA JOHNSON

Samantha Johnson is an alto saxophone player with the Solano Winds Community Concert Band. She started studying piano playing at the age of four. Although she was born in San Francisco, she attended elementary, junior high, and high school in Vallejo and still lives in Vallejo. It was in elementary school where Samantha took up the saxophone. While at Vallejo High School, Samantha was a member of the Proud Heritage Marching Band and Auxiliary Units and played alto saxophone and baritone saxophone with the Marching Band, Concert Band, and Jazz Band.

After graduating from Vallejo High School, Samantha attended Sacramento State University where she obtained a Bachelor of Music degree with an emphasis in Music Education and saxophone performance. Along with her studies in Music, she minored in Criminal Justice. As a Music Major at Sacramento State, Samantha played in the University's Concert Band, Wind Ensemble, Marching Band, Saxophone Quartet, and the Saxophone Orchestra.

After completing her Bachelor's degree, Samantha obtained a teaching credential in Music from Sacramento State. During her studies to become a credentialed teacher, she taught music at Bella Vista High School and Arden Middle School in the San Juan Unified School District in Sacramento. Samantha also has experience teaching English, Math, Science – and English as a second language at Mary Bird Community Day School and Rodriguez High School. She hopes to continue her education by obtaining a Master's Degree in Educational Leadership.

Samantha joined the Solano Winds in 2007 and is currently on the band's board of directors specializing as a *liaison* with local educational institutions' Music programs.. She currently works at MIT Academy Middle School in Vallejo where she is teaching music and science. Samantha's life is surrounded by teaching and music. When she is not busy teaching, she enjoys watching movies, traveling, and going to concerts of her favorite artists.

SOLANO WINDS

In the Fall of 1994, as Bob Briggs was leading the California Marching Band through his last season before his retirement, Bill Doherty suggested to him that he could fill his time in retirement by starting up a community band to conduct in Fairfield. Before becoming the Director of Bands at the University of California, Bob was the Director of the Armijo SuperBand, building a standard of excellence with that high school program. Strong high school bands in Fairfield have been around since that time, including many successful years for the Fairfield Scarlet Brigade. What was missing was a place for adult musicians to continue to play their instruments.

Bob took on the challenge, and attended Community Band workshops at the MidWest Band Clinic in Chicago that year. In the summer of 1995, a group of musicians gathered to discuss the possibility of putting together such a group, and two months later, 40 band musicians gathered at Fairfield High School for the first rehearsal of the Solano Winds. One week after that first rehearsal of October 5, 1995, over 50 musicians from seven counties were with the band to prepare for our first performance at Will C. Wood High School in December.

Since that enthusiastic beginning, the band has regularly fielded a band of 45-65 members to perform a number of concerts throughout the year. Each year, the band has prepared four formal programs, and has also performed at events such as the Fourth of July Fireworks Show in Suisun, regular concerts at Paradise Valley Estates, and an annual appearance in the Carmichael Park Community Band Festival each June. The band has grown organizationally from our beginnings as well - starting with \$500 grants from Gordon's Music and Sound and the Fairfield Scarlet Brigade Boosters in 1995, we now enjoy funding from a number of donors as well as support through the City of Fairfield's Cultural Arts Awards Program. Bill Doherty took the baton as Music Director for the band after Bob Briggs passed away in September 2008. The purpose of the band remains as how it started - to perform high quality band literature well, and to have fun doing it!

THANK YOU!

The Solano Winds would like to thank our donors, Solano Community College, Gordon's Music and Sound, and the City of Fairfield for their generous support.

SOLANO WINDS PERSONNEL

Conductor

Bill Doherty (Math/Technology Teacher)

Flute

Primrose Librado (Piccolo) (Entrepreneur/Student)

John Lopez (Botany Student)

Cathy Pierce (Second Grade Teacher)

Robert Roozendaal (Professional Animal Trainer)

Christine Shoemaker (Plant Pathologist)

Leslie Williams (Student)

Oboe

Candis Hanson (Teen Programs Assistant)

Clarinet

Rosie Aron (Special Education Aide)

Clifford Gordon (Sales)

Jan Groth (Teacher)

Don Meehan (Volunteer, Western Railway Museum)

Duane Powell (Retired Music Teacher)

Inga Soule (Accounting, SFSU)

Nicholas Weiss (Police Clerk)

Michelle Williams (Volunteer Reading Teacher)

Bass Clarinet

Deborah Johnson (Parole Administrator)

Bassoon

Rafael Figueroa (Retail)

Alto Saxophone

Russell Grindle (Student Teacher, Realtor)

Samantha Johnson (Science/Music Teacher)

Stinn McDaniel (Music Teacher)

Marcus Mills (English/Technology Teacher)

Tenor Saxophone

Evie Ayers (Arts Administrator)

Joe Rico (Telecommunications Staff Engineer)

Aaron Rockwell (Screenwriter)

James Toor (Student)

Baritone Saxophone

Teri Lynn Caughie (Public Safety Dispatcher)

Horn in F

Linn Benson (Retired Air Force Officer/Business Owner)

Jeremiah Krites (Student)

Glenn Nash (Retired Psychiatric Technician)

Jim Tutt (Retired Music/Math Instructor)

Trumpet

Chris Greene (Wine Importer)

Kiran Gupta (Music Teacher/Composer)

Heather Handa (Science Teacher)

Jack Hanes (Music Teacher)

Gary Henry (Public Defender)

Heaven Hodges (Math Tutor)

Chip Miller (Manufacturing Sales Representative)

Dean Tomek (Retired Music Teacher)

Trombone

Bob Fry (Retired Navy Band Director)

Jeff Johnstone (Software Product Manager)

Larry Knowles (Retired Gas Engineer)

Kim McCrea (Child Development Specialist)

Brandon Neal (Store Manager, Vacaville Music)

Alan Sypert (Band Director)

Abby Warner (Professional Animal Trainer)

Euphonium

Jim Bosch (Astronomer)

Ray Cabral (Programmer/Analyst)

Tuba

Bill Brenton (Retired)

Glen Lienhart (Music Teacher)

Percussion

Jennifer Doherty (Music Educator)

Philip Doty (Retired Teacher/U.S. Mint)

Neil Gould (Government Attorney)

Jim Lucas (Retired Music Educator)

Lesleeann Reynoso (Community Services Coordinator)

Timpani

Wally Hunt (Band Director)

Voice of Solano Winds

Liz Wildberger (Retired Media Specialist/Parisian Tourist)

Librarian

Dick Grokenberger (Retired Army/Teacher)

Biographer

Otto Vasak (Retired Chemical Engineer)

ALAN SYPERT - GUEST CONDUCTOR

Alan Syper joined the Solano Winds as a trombone player in January of this year after relocating here from Texas. He holds a Bachelor's Degree in Music Education and a Master's Degree in Educational Leadership from Northwestern State University of Louisiana. He has worked as a band director both in Louisiana and Texas and recently began working with a number of school bands throughout the Napa Valley area. Alan is married to Brandi Syper, and together they have a two year old son named Duncan. The couple is expecting their second child this July.

KIM NEMSON - VOCALIST

Kim Nemson has sung all over California as a lead singer of various rock bands and as a soloist at various celebrations, church functions, and community events. Venues at which she has performed include Pebble Beach Golf Club and Mission Carmel. Kim is a native of Fairfield, where she and her husband of 33 years, Mike Nemson, raised their daughter, Michelle.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO PLAY IN THE SOLANO WINDS?

We rehearse Tuesdays from 7:00 to 9:15 in the Solano Community College Band Room (room 1245), 4000 Suisun Valley Road, Fairfield, from late August through early June. If you play a band instrument, you are welcome to join us. Band musicians of all abilities are welcome!

For more information, contact Bill Doherty at (707) 429-0289, or send an email to bandinfo@solanowinds.org, or visit our website at www.solanowinds.org.

SUPPORT OUR BAND!

Our generous donors are the key to our successful community band. Ticket revenues make up less than 11% of our overall budget, and your help is always needed! Your tax deductible donation will help us in expanding our music library, commissioning a concert piece to be composed for our band, purchasing and renting musical instruments and equipment, and sponsoring guest artists at our performances.

Becoming an Admirer, Devotee or Enthusiast means you receive membership benefits. Help us spread the sound of fine concert band music throughout our community!

Admirers: \$25-\$99

Two concert vouchers
Recognition of gift in concert program

Devotees: \$100-\$249

Four concert vouchers
Recognition of gift in concert program

Enthusiasts: \$250 and up

Eight concert vouchers
Recognition of gift in concert program

Concert Sponsor: \$1,500

Corporations or individuals may sponsor a concert; names will be prominently displayed in advertisements and concert programs. A commemorative plaque is included. Please contact bandinfo@solanowinds.org for more information.

Contributions may be sent to:

Solano Winds
PO Box 722
Fairfield, CA 94533-0072

ROBERT O. BRIGGS SCHOLARSHIP

Established by Robert O. Briggs and administered by the Solano Community Foundation, the Robert O. Briggs Scholarship Endowment provides scholarships to local students pursuing music degrees at four year universities.

To make a tax-deductible contribution to this fund, send checks to:

Robert O. Briggs Scholarship Endowment
c/o Solano Community Foundation
1261 Travis Blvd., Suite 320
Fairfield, CA 94533

For more information, contact the Foundation at (707) 399-3846, or visit <http://www.solanowinds.org/FoundationPage.php>

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