



Donald F. Cook Recital Hall
M.O. Morgan Building
Tuesday, 17 March 1998 at 8:00 p.m.

Kenneth Knowles bass trombone

Variations in Olden Style (d'après Bach)

Thomas Stevens
(1938-)

Kenneth Knowles, bass trombone
Kristina Szutor, piano

Monolog (1973)

Magdalene Schauss-Flake

Variations on the song *Es ist ein Schnitter, hebt der Tod*

Thema
Repetition
Totentanz
Echo
Meditation - Exklamationen
Exitus

Kenneth Knowles, bass trombone
Reid Spencer, speaker

In The Family

Harold Shapero
(1920-)

Overture
Jenis' Song
Robbies' Dance
Terry's Solo
Finale

Kenneth Knowles, bass trombone
Michelle Cheramy, flute

INTERMISSION

The Soldier's Tale (Suite)

Igor Stravinsky
(1882-1971)

The Soldier's March
The Soldier at the Brook
Pastorate
The Royal March
The Little Concert
Three Dances: Tango, Waltz, Ragtime
The Devil's Dance
The Great Chorale
The Triumphal March of the Devil

Donald Buell, conductor; Paul Rice, narrator; Nancy Dahn, violin;
Paul Bendzsa, clarinet; Francesca Davenport, bassoon; Craig Woodland, cornet;
Kenneth Knowles, bass trombone; Frank Fusari, string bass; David Humphrey, percussion



Memorial
University of Newfoundland

048-044-08-97-15,000

Program Notes

Variations in Olden Style

Thomas Stevens

Thomas Stevens has been a member of the Los Angeles Philharmonic trumpet section since 1965, and has been principal trumpet since 1972. The *Variations in Olden Style* were composed for tubist Roger Bobo to fill a gap in the low brass literature for 'incidental' eighteenth century sonata and/or ceremonial music. It is based on a theme from Bach's 'Polonaise' from *French Suite No. 6*. The variations are modelled on the variation style of Corelli and Handel.

Monolog

Magdalene Schauss-Flake

Monolog is a programmatic work based on the old German Song *Es ist ein Schnitter, hebt der Tod* (There is a Reaper, his name is Death), which was composed in 1637 during the Thirty Year's War. As well as providing the basis for the variations, fragments of the song are worked into each of the movements. In the *Echo* variation the trombonist is instructed to remove the tuning slide from the F attachment, resulting in a thin sound which is emitted from the tuning slide receiver at the back of the trombone.

In the Family

Harold Shapero

American composer Harold Shapero composed *In the Family* in 1991 as a holiday gift for his niece and nephew, performers on the flute and trombone respectively. Movements of the duo are dedicated to the various family members and are framed by an Overture and a Finale. The composer notes ominously that "virtuoso performers are required."

The Soldier's Tale

Igor Stravinsky

The original version of *L'Histoire du Soldat*, is a chamber play for two actors, a dancer, and a narrator. It was composed by Stravinsky in collaboration with the Swiss novelist C.F. Ramuz in 1918. The unusual instrumentation consists of both treble and bass instruments from members of the brass, woodwind and string families, plus percussion. Tonight's narration of the Suite has been adapted by Dr. Paul Rice from the original chamber play.

TRANSLATIONS

Monolog (1973)

Magdalene Schauss-Flake

Verse I (Theme - cantus firmus): There is a Reaper, his name is Death. He has power from the Lord. He is sharpening the scythe today, it will cut much better, soon he will begin, we must then suffer it. Beware, pretty little flower!

Verse II: That which stands there today so fresh and green, will be cut down tomorrow; the conceited Narcissus, the heavenly primroses, the beautiful Hyacinths, the turkish lily. Beware, pretty little flower!

Variation I: Repititions

Verse III: Countless hundreds of thousands have fallen there under the sickle: red roses, white lilies, he'll extinguish both, you Kings' Crowns, you will not be spared. Beware, pretty little flower!

Variation II. Dance of the Dead

Verse IV: The divine speedwell, the tulips golden and white, the silvery bluebells, the haylike knapweed, all sink to the earth, what may become of them? Beware, pretty little flower!

Variation III: Echo

Verse V: You handsome lavender and rosemary, you many colored blooms, you proud irises, you curled basil, you tender violets, one will soon have you. Beware, pretty little flower!

Verse VI: So many daisies gather under the scythe, Forget-me-nots and morning glories, you'll not be left standing. Beware, pretty little flower!

Variation IV: Meditation - Exclamations

Verse VII: He makes no distinction, goes all in one step: the proud larkspur and flowers in seed, there they are together, one hardly knows their names. Beware, pretty little flower!

Verse VIII: Defy Death! Come, I fear you not! Defy you, come, reap here! If he cuts me down, I'll find myself - I anticipate it - in the heavenly garden. Be joyful, pretty little flower!

Variation V: Exit.