



School  
of  
Music  
  
University  
of  
Washington

P54  
1994  
6-5

1993-1994 Season - Room 35, School of Music

Boyd Phelps, Alto Saxophone  
Don Vollema, Pianist  
University of Washington Jazz Ensemble,  
Directed by Roy Cummings

Sunday, June 5, 1994 - 1:00 p.m.

Brilliance (1974)

- I. *Déclamé*
- II. *Désinvolve*
- III. *Dolcissimo*
- IV. *Final*

Ida Gotkovsky  
(b. 1933)

Ballade (1938)

Frank Martin  
(1890 - 1974)

#### INTERMISSION

Morning Star (1972)  
(Arranged by Boyd Phelps.)

Rodgers Grant

Fly Like A Boyd (1984)

Herb Harrison

Boyd Phelps is a student of Michael Brockman.

This recital is given in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Doctor of Musical Arts in saxophone performance.

To request disability accommodations, contact the Office of the ADA Coordinator at least ten days in advance of the event. 543-6450 (voice); 545-6452 (TDD); 685-3885 (FAX); access @ u.washington.edu (E-mail).

## PROGRAM NOTES

Brilliance, by French composer Ida Gotkovsky, is a four movement work exhibiting impressionistically influenced writing, bitonality, and virtuosic demands of both performers. *Déclamé* is written in an improvisatory style revealing an exotic as well as a declarative lyricism. *Désinvolté* is a humorous and mischievous theme that contrasts effectively with the first movement. *Dolcissimo* is a linear and tender movement in which the colors of the timbres succeed upon one another in an expression of tender passion. *Final*, a prestissimo movement, is a virtuosic theme that incorporates the nuances of dynamism and rhythmic complexity in an impetuous dialogue between piano and saxophone and culminates in strength and joy.

Ballade, by Frank Martin, was commissioned by Sigurd Rascher, the virtuoso saxophonist, in 1938. It has become included in the repertoire of many classical saxophonists. Influenced early in his career by the French impressionists, Martin later adopted a modified 12-tone method which assumed a functional harmonic significance. Ballade begins with an insistent, relentless, and dissonant tolling by the piano which contrasts with the sweet yet mournful theme stated by the saxophone. Intensity builds as the harmonies become thicker and more complex and the saxophone soars into its extended altissimo range. The next section starts with a declamatory motif that develops haltingly and dynamically builds to a heroic fanfare. A piano solo changes the mood and leads to yet another section which spins a whirling triple meter melody that develops into a macabre demonic waltz. A slow section follows, building to a mysterious andantino section that accelerates in tempo and dynamics to a dramatic saxophone cadenza. A recapitulation follows in which previous themes are restated and developed. Finally, a coda section accelerates the piece to a triumphant close.

Morning Star is a jazz arrangement written for the University of Washington Jazz Ensemble. It represents a culminating project resulting from jazz arranging studies with Professor Michael Brockman.

Fly Like A Bird was written by Herb Harrison, Professor of Music and Jazz Studies at California State University, Sacramento, California. It is a jazz suite based on the opening theme stated by the solo alto saxophone. This theme is again stated at the end of the composition but has been transformed and manipulated by tape recording techniques and serves as background for an improvised cadenza. Today's performance is the Northwest premiere of this work.