

No. 66
Jim

THE UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON
SCHOOL OF MUSIC
AND THE
OFFICE OF LECTURES AND CONCERTS

present

The Music of John Verrall

A RETROSPECTIVE CONCERT

7030 (65)
7031 (66)

7034 - (67)
7035 - (68) 5-8-73

Thursday,
May 31, 1973

8:00 P.M.
Room 210, Kane Hall

PROGRAM

Tape No. 1 - 7030 (5)

13:50

Serenade No. 2 for Wind Quintet (1950) 14:05

Allegro
Adagio
Allegretto

RH 9-20-73.

Serenade No. 2 explores many of the darker timbres and serious meanings not too often touched upon in this medium. The three movements, the first highly contrapuntal, the second with its serious long-line melody, and the brighter, whimsical rondo contrast each other markedly.

6:15

Nocturne for Bass Clarinet and Piano (1957) 7:15

William McColl, *Bass Clarinet*
John Verrall, *Piano*

RH 10-6-73.

Premiered by Harry Gee and Ruth Colbert in Indianapolis, Indiana, on February 8, 1960. Published by Interlochen Press in 1961.

19:03

Piano Quintet (1953) 21

~~CH 9-16-73~~

Allegro non troppo
Andante con moto
Allegro molto
Allegro energico

CH 9-16-73 -

THE PHILADELPHIA STRING QUARTET

Veda Reynolds, *Violin* Alan Iglitzin, *Viola*
Irwin Eisenberg, *Violin* Charles Brennand, *Cello*

Victor Steinhardt, *Piano*

Premiered by Seattle String Quartet and Stephen Ballogh at Seattle Art Institute, October 6, 1955.

INTERMISSION

Tape No. 2 - 7031 (66)

Sonata I for Viola and Piano (1939) 12:30

Moderato
Largo appassionato
Allegro energico-Vivace

CH 9-16-73.

Vilem Sokol, *Viola* John Verrall, *Piano*

Premiered on a broadcast from station WDGY (Minneapolis) in March, 1940, with David Dawson and the composer. Published in 1956 by Dow Music Press, it is the most widely performed of all of the composer's music.

17:48

Nonet for String Quartet and Wind Quintet (1969)

CH 9-16-73.

Prolog: Fast, gently

18:15

*Palindromes: Fast**Lament: Slow**Finale: Fast, but gently*

THE SONI VENTORUM WIND QUINTET

Felix Skowronek, *Flute*Laila Storch, *Oboe*William McColl, *Clarinet*Christopher Leuba, *Horn*Arthur Grossman, *Bassoon*

THE PHILADELPHIA STRING QUARTET

Veda Reynolds, *Violin*Alan Iglitzin, *Viola*Irwin Eisenberg, *Violin*Charles Brennand, *Cello*Samuel Krachmalnick, *Conductor*

Premiered by the Philadelphia String Quartet and the Soni Ventorum Wind Quintet at a Contemporary Group concert, University of Washington in November, 1970, and repeated at their Town Hall concert in April, 1971.

John Verrall came to the University of Washington to teach composition and music theory in September, 1948, from New York where he had been editor of G. Schirmer and the Boston Music Company. Born in Britt, Iowa, June 27, 1908, he had pursued his early studies in composition and piano with Donald Ferguson in Minneapolis and cello with Englebert Roentgen, then first cellist with the Minneapolis Symphony. He spent two years in Europe, one in London studying composition with R. O. Morris, and one in Budapest studying composition with Zoltan Kodaly and piano with Gabriel Zsigmondy. Later he received the degree of Bachelor of Music from the Minneapolis College of Music where he had continued studying piano with Zsigmondy. After graduating from the University of Minnesota (B.A. in 1932) he taught theory at Hamline University and at Mount Holyoke College, studying during these years with Roy Harris, Aaron Copland and Frederick Jacoby. A notable influence during his formative years was his friendship with Dimitri Mitropoulos, David Dawson (who became violist with the Coolidge String Quartet and later the Gordon String Quartet and the Berkshire String Quartet) and John Barrows (later of the New York Wind Quintet), so that he explored in depth writing for orchestra and chamber groups. After joining the faculty at the University of Washington with its fine and extensive performing faculty and its several student performing groups, Professor Verrall continued to explore orchestral and chamber writing, and added works in the fields of opera, band and chorus. A list of his works, including several theoretical writings, is appended to this program.

JOHN VERRALL: List of Works, Performances, Publications, Recordings

1. Symphony I (1939) Premiered by Minneapolis Symphony (Mitropoulos) 1941.
2. Sonata I, Viola and Piano (1939) Premiered by David Dawson, St. Paul, Minn., 1941. Published by Dow Press 1956.
3. Portrait of Man (1940) Premiered by Minneapolis Symphony (Mitropoulos) 1941.
4. Trio for Violins and Viola (1941) Premiered by Twin City Chamber Music Society, 1941. Published by Valley Press, 1944.
5. String Quartet I (1941) Premiered by Coolidge String Quartet, St. Paul, Minn., 1941.
6. Music for Documentary Film: Minnesota Document, released in 1941.
7. Concert Piece for Strings and Horn (1940) Performed by New York Philharmonic (Mitropoulos) 1941.
8. Sonata for Horn and Piano (1941) Premiered by John Barrows and composer, 1942.
9. String Quartet II (1942) Premiered by Coolidge String Quartet, Mount Holyoke College, 1955. Published by Valley Music Press, 1947.
10. Serenade I for Wind Quintet (1944) Premiered by Army Air Forces Wind Quintet, Arlington, Virginia, 1944. Published by Music Press, 1947.
11. Ah Come, Sweet Death, canon for a *capella* choir. Published by Music Press, 1947.
12. Concerto for Violin and Orchestra (1947) Premiered by Helen Airoll in San Francisco, 1947.
13. Prelude and Allegro for Strings (1948) Premiered by Seattle Symphony (Linden) 1948, recorded by MGM Chamber Symphony (Surinach), 1956.
14. String Quartet III (1948) Premiered by Stringart String Quartet in Philadelphia, 1955. Published by Oliver Ditson, 1950.
15. Symphony for Young Orchestras (1948) Published by Boston Music Co., 1951.
16. String Quartet IV (1948) Premiered by University of Washington String Quartet, Seattle, 1949; Published by Oliver Ditson, 1952; Recorded by Music Library Recordings (U. of Wash. Quartet) 1950.
17. Four Pieces for Piano (1949) Premiered by John Crown, San Francisco, 1950; Published by University of Washington Press (Galaxy) 1954.
18. Sonata for Violin and Piano (1950) Premiered by Jack and Mary Ringgold at University of Washington, 1963.
19. The Cowherd and the Sky Maiden, Opera (1951) Libretto: Esther Shephard; produced at University of Washington (Stanley Chapple) 1952 (stage design: John Conway).
20. Sonata for Piano (1951) Premiered by Randolph Hokanson in London, England, 1953.
21. String Quartet V (1952) Premiered by Berkshire String Quartet, University of Indiana, 1957.
22. Serenade II for Wind Quintet (1950) Premiered by New Art Wind Quintet at University of Washington, 1954.

23. Piano Quintet (1953) Premiered by Seattle Symphony String Quartet and Stephen Ballogh in Seattle, 1955.
24. The Wedding Knell, opera (1954) text by Hawthorne; Premiered at University of Washington (Stanley Chapple) 1954 winning Seattle Centennial Opera Award, 1954.
25. Sketches and Miniatures for Piano (1954) Premiered by John T. Moore in Phoenix, Arizona, 1956; Published by Valley Music Press, 1956.
26. Variations on an Ancient Tune for Orchestra (1955) Premiered by Seattle Women's Symphony (Rachel Welke) 1955.
27. Three Blind Mice, opera (1955) text by Glenn Hughes; Premiered at University of Washington (Stanley Chapple) 1955.
28. String Quartet VI (1956) Premiered by Peter Marsh String Quartet, Seattle, 1956; Published as Divertimento for Strings by Highgate Press, 1965.
29. Sonatina for Violin and Piano (1956) Premiered by Emmanuel Zetlin and the composer 1957; Published by Dow Music Press, 1957.
30. Sonatina for Violoncello and Piano (1956) Premiered by Eva Heinitz and the composer, 1957. Published by Dow Music Press, 1957.
31. Sonata for Oboe and Piano (1956) Premiered by Patricia Marsh and Beverly Logan in Seattle, 1958; Published by Dow Music Press in 1957.
32. Autumn Sketches for Piano (1956) Premiered by Kenneth Benshoof at University of Washington 1957; Published by New Valley Music Press in 1966.
33. Sonatina for Viola and Piano (1956) Premiered by Karel Blaas and Richard Angeletti in Lawrence, Kansas, in 1962; Published by Dow Music Press in 1962.
34. Nocturne for Bass Clarinet and Piano (1956) Premiered by Harry Gee and Ruth Colbert in Indianapolis, Indiana, in 1960; Published by Interlochen Press in 1961.
35. Passacaglia for Band (1958) Premiered by University of Washington Wind Sinfonietta (Walter Welke) 1959.
36. Dark Night of St. John for Orchestra (1959) Premiered by American Symphony League (Franz Bubo) at Assilimar, California in 1960.
37. Suite No. 1 for Orchestra (1959) Premiered by Seattle Symphony Orchestra (Katims) in Seattle, 1960.
38. Concerto for Piano and Orchestra (1959) Premiered by Vancouver Chamber Orchestra (Avison, soloist: Randolph Hokanson) in Vancouver, B. C., 1960.
39. Preludes en Suite for Piano (1960) Premiered by John Ringgold at University of Washington in 1961.
40. String Quartet VII (1961) Premiered by Berkshire String Quartet in Bloomington, Indiana, in 1965; Recorded by C.R.I. (Berkshire Quartet) in 1968.
41. Prelude, Intermezzo and Fugue for Two Pianos (1965) Premiered by Patricia and Donald Smith in Ellensburg, Washington, in 1965.
42. Sonata No. 2 for Viola and Piano (1963) Premiered by Richard Ferrin and the composer at University of Washington in 1964; Published by C. F. Peters in 1965.

43. Canzona for Organ (1965) Premiered by Edward Hansen in Seattle in 1967; Published by C. F. Peters in 1967.
44. Septet for Winds (1966) Premiered by Contemporary Group, University of Washington in 1967; Published by Highgate Press in 1967.
45. Symphony for Chamber Orchestra (1966) Premiered by Contemporary Group at the University of Washington (Suderburg) in 1967.
46. Suite for Two Pianos (1967) Premiered by James Duncan and Kent Holliday in Pueblo, Colorado, in 1967.
47. Concerto for Viola and Orchestra (1968) Premiered by Canadian Broadcast Orchestra (Avison, soloist: Donald McInnes) in Vancouver, B. C., in 1969.
48. Nonette for Winds and Strings (1969) Premiered by Soni Ventorum Wind Quintet and Philadelphia String Quartet at University of Washington in 1971.
49. A Brief Elegy for Clarinet Solo (1970) Premiered by William Smith at New Dimensions in Music concert in Seattle, 1971.
50. Sonata for Flute and Piano (1972) Premiered by Felix Skowronek and composer at University of Washington in 1973.

Books and Articles:

1. Henry Leland Clarke, biographical study for ACA Bulletin, Vol. IX, No. 3, 1960.
2. Symmetrical Hexichords in Serial Form, in Journal of Music Theory, Winter, 1962.
3. Fugue and Invention in Theory and Practice, Pacific Books, Inc., 1966.
4. Basic Theory of Scales, Modes and Intervals, Pacific Books, Inc., 1969.

Prizes and Awards:

1. Guggenheim Fellowship, 1947.
2. Honolulu Academy of Arts award, 1949.
3. Seattle Centennial Opera Award for *Wedding Knell*, 1954.
4. D. H. Lawrence Fellowship in Composition (University of New Mexico), 1964.