Dennis J. Zeisler

Dennis Zeisler has been on the faculty of Old Dominion University in Norfolk, Virginia for 37 years serving as Director of Bands, Professor of Clarinet and Saxophone and Chair of the Music Department. Mr. Zeisler is a graduate of the University of Michigan where he was solo clarinetist of the Symphony band under the direction of Dr. William D. Revelli. He was solo clarinetist of the Detroit Concert Band under the direction of Dr. Leonard Smith and clarinet soloist with the United States Military Academy Band at West Point. Mr. Zeisler is a past recipient the Virginia Music Educator of the Year Award and is a member of the American Bandmasters Association. He is the founder and conductor of the Virginia Wind Symphony. He is on the Board of Directors of the National Band Association, The John Philip Sousa Foundation, The Midwest Clinic and is the 77th President of the American Bandmasters Association.

Upcoming Events

11/1/2015 - ODU Faculty Recital: Dr. James K. Kosnik - 7:00pm
Larchmont United Methodist Church, Norfolk, VA

11/3/2015 - Collegium Musicum and Madrigal Singers in Concert:
“O Musica, liebliche Kunst” - 7:30pm
Diehn Fine Arts Building, Chandler Recital Hall

11/5/2015 - Music Student Lecture: Sam Wolfe, Electric Bass - 4:00pm
Diehn Fine Arts Building, Room 1201

11/7/2015 - ODU Music Department Auditions - 1:00pm
Diehn Fine Arts Building

11/16/2015 - Diehn Concert Series: Measha Brueggergosman - 8:00pm
Diehn Fine Arts Building, Chandler Recital Hall

Old Dominion University Department of Music
Presents
Old Dominion University Wind Ensemble
Dennis J. Zeisler, Director
William Carr, Graduate Conductor
Lindsey Eskins, Graduate Conductor

Old Dominion University Theatre
Sunday, November 1, 2015
3:00pm
Dances

Four Norfolk Dances                                   Philip Sparke
1. Pulham Prelude                                 (b. 1957)
2. Diss Dance
3. Lopham Lament
4. Garboldisham Jig

Courtly Airs and Dances                                 Ron Nelson
1. Intrada                                   (b. 1929)
2. Basse Danse
3. Pavane
4. Saltarello
5. Sarabande
6. Allemande

William Carr, Graduate Conductor

Four Scottish Dances                                                 Malcolm Arnold
(1921 - 2006)
Arr., John Paynter

Lindsey Eskins, Graduate Conductor

Polka and Fugue from “Schwanda, the Bagpiper”           Jaromir Weinberger
(1896 - 1967)
Arr., Glenn C. Bainum

Conga Del Fuego Nuevo                               Arthur Marquez
(b. 1950)
Arr., O. Nickel

Danse Diabolique                                     Joseph Hellmesberger
(1855 - 1957)
Arr., T. Takahashi

Personnel

Piccolo
Jenna Henkel

Contra-Bass Clarinet
Isaac Sheikh

Trombone I
Jack Himmelman
Chris Miller

Alto Saxophone
Ben Glosser
Charlee Eaves

Trombone II
Justin Burgin
Shaquelle Coles

Tenor Saxophone
Danny Santos

Trombone III
Phillip Lane

Baritone Saxophone
Jonathan Hooten

Euphonium
Will Carr
Jared Raymer
Tyler Spruell
Foster Grubbs

Clarinet I
Andre Jefferson Jr.
Tim Martin
Kevin Clasen
Sarah Bass

Tuba
Amanda Nolan
Eric LaVallais
Benjamin Deronde

Clarinet II
Marshall Rigby
Loren Butts
Collier Godfrey
Emma Alexander

String Bass
Jordan O’Byrne

Clarinet III
Alen Dekhanov
Steve Smith
Roderick Gaines
Maggie Williams

Percussion
Julia Gladden
Kimberly Adams
Anthony Carlton
Lindsey Eskins
Christian Mitchell
Benjamin Naranjo
Dennis Northemer
Paul Pandolf
Andrew Smith
Daniel Stazer
Michael Vazquez
Jonathan Wudijono

Bass Clarinet
Robert Rigby
Emily Sharp

Band Manager
Jack Himmelman
Four Norfolk Dances – Philip Sparke

London-born Sparke became interested in band music when he played trumpet in the wind orchestra at the Royal College of Music. He has received numerous commissions from organizations ranging from the US Air Force Band to the BBC and has won many prestigious prizes in the US and abroad.

Commissioned by the South Norfolk Youth Symphonic Band and premiered by them in 2001, Four Norfolk Dances was written as something of a birthday tribute to famed British composer Sir Malcolm Arnold, who lives in Norfolk County, England. Sparke wrote the dances in the style of Arnold, with each one named after a village in South Norfolk that has a particular association with the band. “Pulham Prelude” is a robust dance, combining strong fanfares with a burlesque dance. “Diss Dance” is a charming waltz, balancing solo passages with the full band. “Lopham Lament” features a mournful oboe solo contrasting with a passionate climax. And the “Garboldisham Jig” weaves a lively jig with a graceful chorale.

Courtly Airs and Dances – Ron Nelson

Courtly Airs and Dances is a suite of Renaissance dances which were characteristic to five European countries during the 1500s. Three of the dances (Basse Dance, Pavane, and Allemande) are meant to emulate the music of Claude Gervaise by drawing on the style of his music as well as the characteristics of other compositions from that period. The festival opens with a fanfare-like Intrada followed by the Basse Danse (France), Pavane (England), Saltarello (Italy), Sarabande (Spain), and Allemande (Germany).

Four Scottish Dances – Malcom Arnold/arranged by John Paynter

These dances were composed early in 1957, and are dedicated to the BBC Light Music Festival. They are all based on original melodies but one, the melody of which was composed by Robert Burns.

The first dance is in the style of a slow strathspey- a slow Scottish dance in 4/4 meter — with many dotted notes, frequently in the inverted arrangement of the ‘Scotch snap’. The name was derived from the strath valley of Spey.

The second, a lively reel, begins in the key of E-flat and rises a semi-tone each time it is played until the bassoon plays it, at a greatly-reduced speed, in the key of G. The final statement of the dance is at the original speed in the home key of E-flat.

The third dance is in the style of a Hebridean Song, and attempts to give an impression of the sea and mountain scenery on a calm summer’s day in the Hebrides.

The last dance is a lively fling, which makes a great deal of use of the open-string pitches of the violin (saxophones in the band edition).

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Polka and Fugue from Schwanda the Bagpiper - Jeromir Weinberger/arranged Glenn C. Bainum

Among the most popular works of Jaromir Weinberger (1896-1967) is the polka and fugue from the opera Schwanda the Bagpiper (1927). Weinberger, a Czech composer, studied at the conservatories of Prague and Leipzig before eventually settling in New York. In the fantasy opera Schwanda, the Bagpiper, Schwanda is a country piper, who uses his music to break a spell of gloom cast upon the court of Queen Ice-Heart by a sorcerer. The Queen kisses Schwanda in appreciation, but when Schwanda's wife appears he denies the encounter. “May the devil take me to hell on the spot,” Schwanda says, “if the Queen kissed me.” He is promptly swallowed up by a gaping hole in the earth, but a friend engages the devil in a card game, wins half of the devil's infernal kingdom, and trades it for Schwanda's release. The “Polka” is the music with which Schwanda breaks the evil spell at court and sets the whole town dancing. The “Fugue” accompanies Schwanda on his triumphant departure from the devil's realm. Arranged for wind band by Glenn C. Bainum in 1934, the work has become a popular and lasting part of repertoire for the concert band setting.

Conga Del Fuego Nuevo - Arthur Marquez/arranged by Oliver Nickel

Following on the success of Arturo Márquez’s Danzón No. 2 adapted for band, Oliver Nickel’s transcription of Conga del Fuego Nuevo (Conga of New Fire) gives an added kick to the concert band repertoire. In contrast to the elegant, sinuous Danzón, Conga is an up-tempo, celebratory piece, bright and catchy, with the percussion section providing the signature kick at the end of the conga pattern. Márquez slows things down in the middle section to spotlight the 1st trumpet in a melody that recalls the mariachi tradition. The alto saxes pick it up and relax into a ritard...only to be interrupted by the return of the opening material. The piece ends in fiery fashion.

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Danse Diabolique - Joseph Hellmesberger/arranged by Tohru Takahashi

Joseph Hellmesberger was born into a Viennese musical family. His grandfather was the first concertmaster of the Vienna Philharmonic, and his father was a famous violinist as well as a conductor and composer. Hellmesberger started out as a virtuoso violinist and later became a well-known conductor; he was appointed musical director of the Vienna Philharmonic. After his penchant for young female dancers of the State Theatre led to a scandal, he left Vienna and concentrated on composing light music – particularly operetta. His operetta Das Veilchennädel was successful in Europe and saved him from financial ruin.

He also wrote a variety of dances, including Danse Diabolique. The composition is set in the Phrygian mode which results in a diabolic atmosphere, yet at the height of the work there is an energetic waltz – true to the Viennese tradition!