Department of Music
College of Fine Arts

presents the

UNLV Wind Orchestra
Thomas G. Leslie, conductor
Takayoshi "Tad" Suzuki, conductor
Jennifer Grim, guest soloist
Jeffrey A. Malecki, guest conductor

PROGRAM

Johan de Meij (b. 1953)

Symphony No. 1 ("The Lord of the Rings")
I. Gandalf

Takayoshi "Tad" Suzuki, conductor

Mike Mower (b. 1958)

Concerto for Flute & Wind Orchestra
I. Bright
II. Expressive
III. Medium Swing

Dr. Jennifer Grim, guest soloist

Ronald Lo Presti (1933-1985)

Elegy For a Young American

Jeffrey A. Malecki, guest conductor

Vittorio Giannini (1903–1966)

Symphony No. 3
I. Allegro energico
II. Adagio
III. Alegretto
IV. Allegro con brio

Thursday, October 7, 2010 7:30 p.m.
Artemus W. Ham Concert Hall
Performing Arts Center
University of Nevada, Las Vegas
Thomas G. Leslie

As director of bands and professor of conducting, Thomas G. Leslie has earned international recognition for high quality performances of the UNLV Bands. During his tenure at UNLV, his bands have received critical acclaim from members of the international music world.

Recognized for a fresh, interpretative style among collegiate wind orchestras, Professor Leslie and the UNLV Wind Orchestra continue to excel in their commitment to commission new works by the next generation of the world’s finest young composers. This ensemble, under Leslie’s baton, has premiered numerous pieces commissioned by UNLV, Leslie and the Wind Orchestra.

As an adjudicator and conductor in 44 states nationally and the District of Columbia, Leslie has also been invited to conduct performances and clinics internationally in Australia, Ireland, Japan, England, Scotland, France, Switzerland, Austria, Germany, and Canada.

Leslie received degrees in music education from The University of Iowa and Indiana State University. He was inducted as a member of the prestigious American Bandmasters Association in 1997 and in March 2010 he was elected as Vice President of this very distinguished organization. He continues to be a long-standing member of both the College Band Directors National Association, the Music Educators National Conference, and has served as Western Division Chair for the National Band Association. Leslie was also recently appointed to the Board of Directors for the John Philip Sousa Foundation.

Takayoshi “Tad” Suzuki

Takayoshi “Tad” Suzuki enrolled at the Tokyo Conservatoire Shobi as a music education major in 1970. While completing his education degree, he began attending the Tokyo National University of Fine Arts. During his time at the university, he was active as a trombonist with several recording studios, the Tokyo Kosei Wind Orchestra and the Japan Philharmonic Orchestra. He returned to his alma mater, Fukuoka Technical University High School, in 1974 to become the music teacher and band director.

In addition to his high school teaching assignments, he was the conductor of the Fukuoka University Wind Ensemble. During the 15 years he was band director, the Fukuoka Technical University High School Wind Orchestra traveled to Tokyo for the All-Japan Band Contest for 13 consecutive years. In that time, the band won the Gold Prize five times, Silver four times and the prestigious Grand Prix (Sweepstakes) Award four times. In 1987, the Fukuoka Technical University High School Wind Orchestra became the first Japanese high school band to perform at the annual Mid-West Band and Orchestra Clinic in Chicago. The group was so well received a fifteen-minute standing ovation followed. In 1991, Prof. Suzuki was invited by the president of the Tokyo Conservatoire Shobi to return to his alma mater and become a faculty member. Professor Suzuki has been an Instructor of Conducting at UNLV since 1995.

Dr. Jennifer Grim

Hailed as "a deft, smooth flute soloist" by the New York Times, Jennifer Grim’s remarkable depth and breadth as a performer of solo and chamber repertoire is gaining broad national acclaim. Winner of several national chamber music competitions, Dr. Grim has performed with such groups as the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center and St. Luke's Chamber Ensemble, and has collaborated with such notable musicians as Menahem Pressler and Philippe Entremont, whom invited her to be the principal flutist in the Santo Domingo Festival Orchestra. Dr. Grim is the flutist of the award-winning Zephyros Winds, the solo flutist of the New York Chamber Soloists and the principal flutist of the Vermont Mozart Festival. She also has appeared at the Music Festivals of Caramoor and Aspen, among others.

A native of Berkeley, California, Dr. Grim holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from Stanford University and Masters and Doctor of Musical Arts degrees from Yale University. She is currently Assistant Professor of Music at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, and a consultant for Music in Reach, an iPhone application for music education.

Jeffrey A. Malecki

Jeffrey A. Malecki is in his third and final year of doctoral work at UNLV. Hailing from Michigan, he holds degrees from Central Michigan University and VanderCook College of Music. Jeff became director of bands at Sunnyslope High School in Phoenix, Arizona, in 2003. In addition to exponential growth, his groups earned accolades including the prestigious “Giving Music the Edge” Award bestowed by 103.9 FM.

Throughout teaching and studying, Jeff remains a consummate performer, having played with the Orcestra Sinfonica de Trujillo (Peru), City of Cambridge Brass Band (England), and Salt River Brass Band (Phoenix). He also performed and conducted at the 2009 Southwest Regional and 2010 International Tuba-Euphonium Conferences.

While a graduate assistant at UNLV, Jeff has managed and conducted various University ensembles. In 2009, he earned a grant to conduct the UNLV Community Band in Dublin, Ireland. His professional affiliations include the CBDNA, CMS, and Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia.
Performers

Piccolo
Katharine Jensen^ Las Vegas, NV

Flute
Katharine Jensen^ Las Vegas, NV
Kristen Pierce Las Vegas, NV
Emily Wong** Modesto, CA

Oboe
Chris Fujiwara Honolulu, HI
Alex Hayashi* Honolulu, HI

English Horn
Ryan Schwartz Las Vegas, NV

Bassoon
Kim Kehau Chai II* Sapulpa, OK
Emily Park Grady* Long Island City, NY

B-Flat Clarinet
Christopher Armeno Las Vegas, NV
Cherith Mendoza Los Angeles, CA
Brian Murphy Campbellford, Canada
Kanade Oi* Hokkaido, Japan
Aki Oshima* Engaru, Japan
Bryan Wente** Stillwater, MN
Tallyn Wesner Albuquerque, NM

Bass Clarinet
Keaton Martin Henderson, NV

Contra Alto Clarinet
Megan Hanson Las Vegas, NV

Contra Bass Clarinet
Clint Williams^ Ft. Smith, AR

Alto Saxophone
Patrick Garcia Las Vegas, NV
Markus Hahn** Forest Lake, MN

Tenor Saxophone
Ronald Holmes Las Vegas, NV

Baritone Saxophone
Scott McKell Mendon, UT

Trumpet
Aaron DelaHuerta Las Vegas, NV
Kendall Demaviva Mission Viejo, CA
Travis Higa* Kaneohe, HI
Kyle Overlay Henderson, NV
Richard Paugh Wichita, KS
David Shepard* Castaic, CA

Horn
Jenni Kearns Madisonville, KY
Erie Paul* Waterford, CT
Jordan Rush Las Vegas, NV
Fred Stone* Las Vegas, NV

Trombone
James Nelson* Pipestone, MN
Dustin Stevens Las Vegas, NV

Bass Trombone
Paul Munger Salt Lake City, UT

Euphonium
Brad Bradley Las Vegas, NV
Jeffrey Malecki* Sterling Heights, MI
Leanne Stamp Las Vegas, NV

Tuba
Garrison Gillham Broken Arrow, OK
Saxon Lewis Collinsville, OK
Daniel Uhrlieh* Henderson, NV

Cello
Anthony Rodriguez* Las Vegas, NV
Dominique Jackson Las Vegas, NV

Double Bass
Ryan Bell Farmington, UT
Hayden Bryant Logandale, NV
Blake Riley* Henderson, NV

Piano
Danbi Cho Seoul, South Korea

Harp
Gina Bombola^ Lodi, CA

Timpani
Corene Peltier Kaneohe, HI

Percussion
Christopher Bernabe Chicago, IL
Charles Gott Las Vegas, NV
A.J. Merlino^ West Long Branch, NJ
Melaney Scarberry Henderson, NV
Jack Steiner^ Reading, PA
Luke Thatcher** Orlando, FL

Rehearsal Assistant
Andrew Smouse^ Bedford, PA

* Principal
^ Graduate Teaching Assistant

Program Notes

Johan de Meij was born November 23, 1953 in Voorburg, Holland. He received his musical education at the Royal Conservatory in The Hague, where he studied wind conducting and trombone. After his graduation, he gained an international reputation as an arranger of classical and popular works.

His first composition for symphonic band, Symphony No. 1 "The Lord of the Rings" was awarded the first prize at the prestigious Sudler International Wind Band Composition Competition 1989 in Chicago. The first movement, titled "Gandalf," conveys the mystery and magnificence of two of J.R.R. Tolkien's most remembered characters - Gandalf, the Grey and Shadowfax, the Lord of Horses. This fanfare displays the heroic spirit, exciting color, and mysterious textures from one of our most loved literary classics. De Meij, Johan. “Biography.” http://www.euronet.nl/~amsmusic/bio_demeij.htm.

Mike Mower is a native of England and has been composing "cross-over" music for many years fusing classical and jazz styles. He works as a composer, mainly writing newly commissioned works, and is published by Itchy Fingers Publications, for which he has written a series of very successful books of educational standard music. He studied flute at the Royal Academy of Music in London and was later awarded the ARAM (Associate of the Royal Academy of Music).

"I was approached by Lisa Garner, professor of flute at Texas Tech University to write a work for flute and wind orchestra whilst I was performing at the American National Flute Association conference in Las Vegas in 2003. She had assembled a consortium of 19 universities and the Brannen Cooper foundation to fund a 12-minute piece, in the event I decided to add a third movement and turn the work into a concerto" Mike Mower, Mower, Mike. "About Mike Mower." http://www.itchyfingers.com/mikemower.php.
Ronald LoPresti, clarinetist and composer, was born in 1933 in Williamstown, Massachusetts. After graduating from the prestigious Eastman School of Music he received many grants from the Ford Foundation and has also served as the "composer-in-residence" for the Ford Foundation. Lo Presti taught at Texas Technical University, Indiana State College, and Arizona State University.

Former president John F. Kennedy was tragically assassinated in 1963. Elegy For a Young American was composed in memory of President Kennedy in 1964. The piece was premiered in April 1964 by the Indiana University of Pennsylvania Wind Ensemble. Truly, Lo Presti has composed an emotional piece from feelings of sorrow, grief, and sadness to beauty, honor, and inner peace. This sensitive music begins vulnerable and rubato with only the clarinets while it ends unified and warm with everyone, including the chimes, to signify our president's rest in his grave. Richard Miles. Ed. Teaching Music Through Performance in Band, Volume 1. Chicago, IL: GIA Publications, 1996.

Vittorio Giannini was born in Philadelphia in 1903 into a home with strong musical background where he learned to play the violin from his mother. At the age of 9, he received a scholarship to the Royal Conservatory in Milan, Italy. In 1917 he returned to New York to complete his graduate studies in composition at the Juilliard School of Music. From 1939 to 1965, he served concurrently at the Juilliard School of Music, the Manhattan School of Music, and the Curtis Institute. This symphony, written in 1961 on a commission from the Mary Duke Biddle Foundation, represents Giannini's second venture in writing for the concert band. Giannini commented: "I can give no other reason for choosing to write a symphony, than 'I felt like it,' and the thought of doing it interested me a great deal. When I compose, I try to project and communicate a feeling, a thought that is in me at the time ... [and] the band is simply another medium for which I try to make music." Stëhle, Roy. "Vittorio Giannini." http://www.windband.us/foothill/pgm_note/notes_g.htm#Giannini.

UNIVERSITY BAND STAFF
Thomas G. Leslie, Director of Bands
Anthony LaBounty, Associate Director of Bands
Takayoshi "Tad" Suzuki, Instructor of Conducting

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Please join us in concert with our special guest, the
GREEN VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL WIND SYMPHONY
Diane Koutsulis, Conductor
November 17, 2010
7:30 P.M.
Artemus W. Ham Concert Hall
Performing Arts Center
University of Nevada, Las Vegas