

FOR RELEASE: IMMEDIATE

Contact: Bob McGill



Mailed April 16, 1985

YOUNGSTOWN, Ohio - Original musical compositions by several nationally and internationally recognized composers will be featured at Youngstown State University's Dana New Music Festival April 25-28.

Organized by the Dana School of Music in the College of Fine and Performing Arts, the festival is the first of its kind to be held at YSU. It will be presented in conjunction with the 1985 Region 5 Convention of the American Society of University Composers.

A highlight of the festival will be the four-day Schermer Scholar residency of Dr. Samuel Adler, one of the world's foremost composers of Jewish sacred music.

All festival events are free and open to the public. They include six concerts, a symposium, panel discussion, special presentations at Rodef Sholom Temple and the First Unitarian Church of Youngstown, as well as special discussions and lectures.

The compositions, which were selected for play by a committee from some 120 submissions, will be featured during several of the on-campus concerts.

During the YSU Jazz Ensemble concert at 3:15 p.m. April 26 in the Bliss Hall Band Room, two works by Howie Smith, director of Jazz Studies at Cleveland State University, entitled "Thandi" and "Karin," will be performed.

At 4 p.m. that day in Bliss Recital Hall, Dana students Anthony Disanza and Lynn Scherer will perform "Dazyes" by Fred Glesser, a Kent State music graduate.

MORE

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Also during the 4 p.m. concert, the Dana Chorale will sing "Three Reflections from the Psalms" by Warren Peter Gooch, a doctoral music candidate at the University of Wisconsin.

In a 3:30 p.m. concert on April 27 in the Kilcawley Center Chestnut Room, the Dana-YSU Wind Ensemble under the direction of Joseph Edwards will perform selections entitled "Sarum for Wind Ensemble" by Dr. William Alexander, chairman of the Music Department at Edinboro (Pa.) University, and "Earth and Sky" by Ramon Zupko, former Dana student and current professor of composition at Western Michigan University.

At 4:45 p.m. in the Chestnut Room, Dana percussion student Steven Ley will perform Dr. Roque Cordero's "Soliloquios No. 4." Dr. Cordero is an internationally renowned composer who currently teaches at Illinois State University. Ley will then join with David Shoff, tuba, to perform "Journey to the Yellow Springs" by Darleen Cowles of the American Conservatory of Music in Chicago.

In that same concert, Dana student Diane Bargiel will be clarinet soloist with percussion ensemble accompaniment for "Concerto for Clarinet" by Leon Stein, Dean Emeritus of the DePaul University School of Music, where he taught for many years.

In an 8 p.m. concert in Bliss Recital Hall featuring the Ohio State University Contemporary Music Ensemble and the Kent State University New Music Ensemble, Dr. Thomas Wells, conductor of the Ohio State group, will be piano soloist for "Prelude" by Ulf Grahn, a native of Sweden whose works have been performed throughout the world.

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YOUNGSTOWN, Ohio - A dozen American artists have created new stage sets and costumes for seven well-known plays for an exhibit called "Staged/Stages," which will be on display in Youngstown State University's Kilcawley Art Gallery April 24 thru May 18.

The exhibit is free and open to the public. It features works by such artists as Miriam Schapiro, Les Levine and Vito Acconci, who created updated stagings for plays including Shakespeare's "A Midsummer Night's Dream;" Aeschylus' "The Eumenides;" Thornton Wilder's "Our Town" and Lillian Hellman's "The Little Foxes."

Bernice Steinbaum, a New York gallery owner, invited the artists to create their renditions of plays that were assigned for their variation in date and social milieu. Some collaborated with well-known professionals, including fashion designer Jenny Sharp, puppet designer Maureen Trotto and costume designer Judith Shea. Together they achieved imaginative, yet workable, results.

"Staged/Stages" includes three set designs Miriam Schapiro proposed for "A Midsummer Night's Dream" compounded out of fabric and painting. Maureen Trotto created latex puppets for The Furies of "Eumenides" and Vito Acconci formed a flat cut-out shape of mirrored plastic trimmed with velvet, slanting up from the floor, with holes and doorways for actors to pop through in Alfred Jarry's "Ubu Roi."

Artists have been involved in creating designs and objects for the theatre throughout history, but the instances have been limited. Leonardo da Vinci drew sets for royal festivals, Gianlorenzo Bernini created Baroque theatrical schemes and Edouard Vuillard designed playbills and posters.

MORE

ADD ONE

More recent examples include Pablo Picasso and Giorgio de Chirico's collaborations with Russian impresario Serge Diaghilev and Oscar Schlemmer's creations for multi-media events staged at the Bauhaus.

As the latest example of this crossover between the visual and performing arts, "Staged/Stages" will be shown at 19 universities and museums around the country over the next two years.

The Kilcawley Art Gallery hours are Monday and Friday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; Tuesday through Thursday, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.; and Saturday, 11 a.m.-3 p.m.

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