

Bryan Symphony Orchestra

AT TENNESSEE TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY

Notes and Notices

Vol. 5

No. 4

P. O. Box 185, Cookeville, Tennessee 38503

March, 2000

Maestro Graca to be guest conductor for March 26 concert



Maestro Zbigniew Graca's extensive career has led him to perform in many concert halls and opera houses in many parts of the world.

Born in 1953 in Warsaw, Poland, he graduated from Warsaw's Chopin Music Academy. After receiving his master degree he studied conducting with Franco Ferrara in Sienna, Italy and Rafael Kubelik in Lucerne, Switzerland. He is an award winner from several international conducting competitions: the Malko in Copenhagen, the Swarowski in Vienna, and the Katowice in Fitelberg.

Maestro Graca has conducted in most of the countries of Europe, as well as Japan and Israel, often conducting international tours of the Warsaw Chamber Opera, Polish Radio Symphony Orchestra and Arthur Rubinstein Philharmonic Orchestra of Lodz, Poland.

From 1980 to 1985, he served as concertmaster and conductor with the Aachen Symphony Orchestra in Germany, and from 1985 he conducted at the Royal Opera in Copenhagen, Denmark. Since 1989, he has led the Warsaw Chamber Opera, a company which specializes in repertoire by Mozart, Rossini and contemporary composers. He has also worked with Grand Opera Theater in Poznan, where he conducted the local premieres of works by Puccini, Stravinsky, and Bartok.

Maestro Graca often records for radio, television and compact disc.

MEET the GUEST CONDUCTOR at the Symphony

Preview Luncheon

on Friday

March 24

Noon



Call 372-6088

for reservations before
Wednesday, March 22

First Presbyterian Church
20 North Dixie Avenue

\$5.00

Home cooked food; entertaining and
informative discussion

Meet Bryce Edwards, Joan Derryberry Award winner

Bryce Andrew Edwards is the son of Roland and Kathy Edwards of Murfreesboro, Tennessee.

He started singing at a very early age under the influence of his mother and learned to play the cello at the age of ten. Even as he continued his cello studies, Edwards developed an interest in the euphonium and began to play it at age 13. As a euphonium player, he made the All-State Tennessee Band, participated in the Tennessee Governor's School for the Arts, and participated in many top clinic bands in the Middle Tennessee region. He graduated from Oakland High School after receiving the John Philip Sousa Award and attaining the rank of Eagle Scout with the Boy Scouts of America.

Edwards is the principal euphonium of the Tech Symphony Band and the Tennessee Tech Tuba Ensemble. He is a member of the Tuba Four and has sung in the Tech Chorale at Tennessee Tech. Last season, he played the Bydlo solo in Ravel's orchestration of Mussorgsky's *Pictures at an Exhibition* with the Bryan Symphony Orchestra.

Currently a senior music education major at Tennessee Technological University, Mr. Edwards plans to attend another year at Tennessee Tech in order to complete his teaching certification in vocal instruction. He then plans to attend graduate school, with the goal of eventually



attaining a doctorate in music education. He is a member of Phi Mu Alpha and has served as vice president of Xi Chi Chapter for a year.

Edwards is a touring member with the Jack Daniel's Original Silver Cornet Band. He has entered the two foremost international competitions for euphonium players and recently won the principal euphonium chair in the Collegiate Band Director's National Association Band.

Bryce Edwards is the first euphonium player to win the Joan Derryberry Award, and he wishes to thank his family and friends for all the support they have shown through the years. Mr. Edwards is a student of R. Winston Morris.

From the Orchestra's Executive Director, Janet Lundy

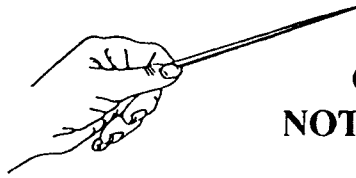
We send a special thank you to season ticket holders who were not able to attend the February concert and donated their tickets back to the orchestra for resale. Because of having the Mastersingers, TTU Chorale and Concert Choir joining the Orchestra, the demand for tickets was very great.

When the box office closed at concert time, only one ticket remained for sale, and that was a ticket received just minutes before concert time. Just a reminder, if we

know in advance that a ticket will be available for resale, we can write a pass rather than wait for the actual ticket.

Again, thank you! We are always sorry when you are unable to attend a concert, but we appreciate your thoughtfulness in releasing your seats; with your help, several hundred dollars were raised for the Orchestra and few empty seats were seen in the auditorium on February 13.

To donate tickets, either mail your tickets to us at P. O. Box 185, Cookeville, TN 38503, or call us at (931) 372-6088.



THE CONDUCTOR'S NOTES

I'm looking forward to March 26!

I love the Brahms *First Symphony* - surely one of the greatest works in the entire repertoire, full of power and passion, craft and drama. In its unparalleled four movements, it creates a turbulent world of rich musical ideas, and it carries that turbulence to a glorious triumph.

And before that on the program? Gorecki. You may not know of him, but his *Third Symphony* did something that NO other contemporary composer has ever done - it made the POP charts!

Eloquent and approachable, his music represents the best of Poland's musical traditions, and, when you consider that Poland's repertoire includes the music of Chopin, the public's high opinion of Gorecki's music is no small praise. While you can tell he is a contemporary composer, I think you'll hear beautiful harmonies, folk-like melodies, and artistic drama. *Three Pieces in Old Style* is short and moving. I'm betting that you'll be intrigued by this music enough to want to hear a CD of his work.

In between will be one of our best students, Bryce Edwards, soloing with the orchestra. You might remember his remarkable Bydlo solo last season in Mussorgsky's *Pictures at an Exhibition*, or maybe you've seen him in the band, or even the chorus - Bryce has a multitude of talents. In addition to playing euphonium and singing, I understand he is quite a credible cellist! He is a worthy winner of the award that bears Joan Derryberry's name.

All of this will be exciting to me, because for once I can join *you* in the audience. We have a guest conductor coming from Warsaw to work with the orchestra. He has conducted across the world, and I'm looking forward to hearing his accompaniment of the concerto, and his interpretations

of the Brahms symphony and the music of his native Gorecki!

I hope you'll join me in welcoming our international guest and in supporting a student who has a promising career ahead of him.

We're all in for a treat - see you there!

John Dodson

Praise from the press for Graca's conducting

- *Ruch Muzyczny - Warsaw*: We owe Graca a special appreciation for his Honegger *Liturgical Symphony* interpretation. From the first note to the last, the music sounded clear, pure and understandable, explicit, powerful and appealing.
- *Jylland - Posten*: Graca demanded from the orchestra an increase in dynamics, raising the tension, and thus emphasizing the pathetic character of the Overture.
- *Flensborg Avis*: Graca is a young dynamic musical personality who unites both intuitive stylistic understanding and a contagious temperament.

Free tickets for Putnam students

As part of the education program of the Bryan Symphony Orchestra, students in each of the elementary schools in Putnam County will have an opportunity to win free tickets to the March 26 concert.

This program, funded in part by the Cookeville Arts Council, will be carried out through the music instructors in the schools, who will hold music-related competitions. The winner in each school will receive two complimentary concert tickets.

Names of the winners will be published in the April issue of *Notes and Notices*.

Orchestra's Web Address

jlundy@tntech.edu

Bryan Symphony Orchestra concerts

Sunday, March 26 3:00 p.m.

Zbigniew Graca, guest conductor

- Gorecki *Three Pieces in Old Style*
- Bryce Edwards, euphonium
Derryberry Award Winner
- Brahms *Symphony No. 1*

Sunday, April 30 3:00 p.m.

Piotr Folkert, piano

- Chopin *Piano Concerto No. 1*
- Britten *Sinfonia da Requiem*
- Liszt *Les Preludes*

Upcoming TTU Department of Music and Art recitals and concerts

Monday, March 20 8 p.m.

Kevin Chiarizzio, Faculty Recital

Thursday, March 23 8 p.m.

Catherine Godes, Faculty Recital

Saturday, March 25 7 p.m. Jazz Concert

Thursday, March 30 8 p.m.

Faculty Brass Quintet Concert

Tuesday, April 4 8 p.m.

Cumberland Quintet

Friday, April 7 8 p.m. Jackson Henry,
1998 Derryberry Award winner, Recital

Tues. April 11 8 p.m. Percussion Ensemble

Saturday, April 15 3 p.m.

Cumberland Children's Chorus

Monday, April 17 8 p.m.

Faculty Chamber Music

Reminder

Concert Preview March 26

by Dr. Catherine Godes at 2:00 p.m.
in Room 223 of Bryan Fine Arts Building

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Bryan Symphony Orchestra
at Tennessee Technological University
Department of Music and Art
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Cookeville, TN 38505

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Plan Now
to
Attend the March 26 concert
and the
April 30 concert

Watch
for the
Announcement of the
exciting
2000-2001
Bryan Symphony Orchestra
Concert Season