

PORT ANGELES
SYMPHONY

Adam Stern, Music Director/Conductor

Notes

March 2010



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Please join us for a very special All-Vaughan Williams concert, March 13. On the program will be *Sea Songs* (orchestrated by Gordon Jacob), *Toccata Marziale* (orchestrated by Adam Stern), *English Folksong Suite* (orchestrated by Gordon Jacob), and *The Pilgrim's Progress: A Bunyan Sequence* featuring Andrew Parks, Kurt Beattie and Kathleen Balducci and Special Guests, The Peninsula Singers, Dewey Ehling, Director.

Program Notes by Suzanne Berg:

Ralph Vaughan Williams (October 12, 1872 – August 26, 1958) was an English composer of symphonies, chamber music, opera, choral music, and film scores. He was also a collector of English folk music and song. He was born in Down Ampney, Gloucestershire, where his father was vicar. Following his father's death in 1875, he was taken by his mother, the great-granddaughter of the potter Josiah Wedgwood, to live with her family at the Wedgwood family home in North Downs. He was also related to Charles Darwin, who was his great-uncle. Though born into the privileged intellectual upper middle class, Vaughan Williams never took it for granted and worked all his life for the democratic and egalitarian ideals in which he believed.

As a student he had studied "piano, which I never could play, and the violin, which was my musical salvation." He attended the Royal College of Music, where one of

his fellow pupils was Leopold Stokowski. Stokowski later conducted six of Vaughan Williams' symphonies for American audiences. Another friendship made at the Royal College was with fellow-student Gustav Holst. This friendship was crucial to Vaughan Williams' development as a composer. He had further lessons with Max Bruch and later took a big step forward in his orchestral style when he studied in Paris with Maurice Ravel. However, his first composition did not occur until he was 30.

Sea Songs is an arrangement of three British sea-songs: "Princess Royal," "Admiral Benbow," and "Portsmouth." It was originally arranged for military band in 1923. This work, as well as the *English Folk Song Suite*, stemmed from Vaughan Williams' admiration for the band of the Royal Military School of Music at Kneller Hall. He and Gordon Jacob subsequently re-arranged this work for full orchestra in 1942.

Toccata Marziale was written for military band. Vaughan Williams fashioned a work of neo-Classical character and wit. Much has been made by certain musicologists of its advanced compositional features, but in fact they are rather typical of the composer in their thematic, harmonic, and instrumental characteristics. Vaughan Williams would have been the first to admit he blazed no trails. The piece is jolly and somewhat Stravinskian in character, featuring vibrant colors and deft wit. It contains phrases that are similar to those appearing in the scherzo movements of

several of Vaughan Williams' later symphonies.

Written in 1923, the *English Folk Song Suite* is one of Vaughan Williams' most famous works for military band. The piece was also arranged for full orchestra by one of his students. It consists of three movements. The first movement is a march that opens after a four-bar introduction with the principal melody—the folk song “Seventeen Come Sunday,” featuring flutes and violins. This is followed by “Pretty Caroline,” featuring the clarinet. A third tune, “Dives and Lazarus,” has a grueling 6/8 rhythm played by the upper woodwinds, against the straight 2/4 rhythm of the saxophones and brasses. The second movement features a solo for the oboe on the tune of the folk song “My Bonny Boy.” The appeal of this piece

derives from its sheer simplicity. The third movement is a march, “Folk Songs from Somerset.” The first melody is *Blow Away the Morning Dew*, featuring the clarinet. A second melody, *High Germany*, fades away and the original melody is heard again. The trio introduces a more delicate melody, *Whistle, Daughter, Whistle*, played by the woodwinds. The trio ends with the heavy melody *John Barleycorn*, featuring trombones and basses.

The Pilgrim's Progress is an opera based on John Bunyan's allegory *The Pilgrim's Progress*. Vaughan Williams described the work as a ‘Morality’ rather than an opera. He intended the work to be performed on stage rather than in a church or cathedral. He spent about 40 years composing this opera.

March 13, 2010

Evening Concert

PAHS Auditorium 7:30 pm

Tickets: \$25, \$20, \$12, \$10

Pre-concert Chat 6:40 pm

Morning Dress Rehearsal

PAHS Auditorium 10 am

\$5 Individual, \$10 Family

The Pilgrim's Progress: A Bunyan Sequence

featuring
Movie and Television Actor

Andrew Parks



Feature film credits include *W.C. Fields and Me*, *The Mirror Has Two Faces*, *Donnie Brasco* and *The Lost Skeleton of Cadavra*, and he recently reprised his role as the clueless alien Kro-Bar in its sequel *The Lost Skeleton Returns Again*. Parks' television credits include

a recurring role on *Angel* and guest appearances on *The Virginian*, *Lucas Tanner*, *Cannon*, *Kojak*, *Barnaby Jones*, *Hart to Hart*, *M*A*S*H*, *Trapper John, M.D.*, *Murder, She Wrote*, *The Trials of Rosie O'Neill*, and *Homicide: Life on the Street*.

with Special Guests:

**Peninsula
Singers**

Dewey Ehling,
Music Director/
Conductor



with
**Kurt
Beattie**
Artistic
Director
of Seattle's
A Contemporary Theatre

and **Kathleen Balducci**

A longtime member
and director of
the Port Angeles
Community
Playhouse



The Port Angeles Symphony is pleased to announce the winners of the Symphony's

**24th Annual
Young Artist Competition
First Prize: Hunter Gordon,
Bassoon**



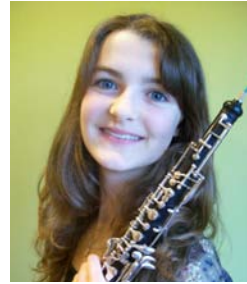
Hunter Gordon is a senior at Port Angeles High School. He has been playing bassoon for the past 6 years, studying for the past 5 1/2 years with Otto Eifert. Hunter has played with the Port Angeles Symphony for the past 4 years, and also plays

with the Port Angeles High School Wind Ensemble and Symphonic Orchestra. Hunter was selected as Principal bassoon of the All-Northwest Orchestra in 2009, and recently the Principal bassoon of the All-State Chamber Orchestra in 2010. In April of 2009, Hunter and Hannah Fishman competed with a flute/bassoon duet at the WMEA State Solo and Ensemble Competition, where they placed 1st in the small woodwind ensemble category. In the summer of 2009, Hunter was accepted for study at Interlochen Arts Camp, where he was selected as the Principal bassoon of the top orchestra, the World Youth Symphony Orchestra. At Interlochen, he was accepted into The Interlochen Woodwind Quintet, which was featured on "Performance Today" on NPR. In addition to bassoon, he has played the piano for the past 13 years. He has studied with Thelma and Richard McCoy, and currently studies piano with Dr. Deborah Rambo Sinn.

**Honorable Mention: Hannah Fishman, Flute
Erin Hennessey, Violin**

The Young Artist Competition is open to any North Olympic Peninsula instrumental music student who was younger than 22 years old on June 1 in the competition year. Applicants perform a selection of music which would be considered concert quality. The first place winner will receive a cash award. The "**Junior**" competition is held concurrently with the Young Artist Competition. The Junior competition is open to those in the ninth grade or below who have not competed in the Young Artist Competition. The first place winner receives a cash award.

**4th Annual "Junior"
Young Artist Competition
First Prize: Johanna Jacobsen,
Oboe**



Johanna has been playing oboe for seven years and has played with the Port Angeles Symphony for three years. She started oboe lessons for one year with one Paul Hanes; and has continued her studies with Principal Oboist with

the Port Angeles Symphony, Anne Krabill. Johanna also enjoys reed making under Anne's guidance. This is Johanna's fourth year competing in the Young Artist Competition. Johanna enjoys playing oboe with the Northwinds Homeschool Concert Band and bass guitar with the Northwinds Advanced Jazz Band. She also plays with the worship team weekly at Faith Baptist Church. Last year, Johanna had the wonderful opportunity to rehearse and perform with Port Angeles High School's orchestra and travel with them to New York City to perform at Carnegie Hall. Johanna also enjoys singing and drama. She has participated in several plays and her first musical as one of the Lost Boys in "Peter Pan" with PALOA last summer.

Honorable Mention: Levi Yearian, Violin

Season Brochures for the 2010-2011 Season were recently mailed!

Please don't forget to send in your renewal before the deadline of April 17 in order to guarantee your same seats. Also, if you are requesting a change in your seating, submitting your request as soon as possible gives you the best chance to obtain the seats you are requesting. Thank you!

Want the inside scoop...follow us on Facebook!

**Sequim
Bus Schedule**

<u>Departure Location</u>	<u>Time</u>
The Gathering Place - Sunland	5:50PM
The Lodge	6:00 PM
The Fifth Avenue	6:10 PM

Please contact **Barbara Hutter** at **683-4743** for reservations and information about bus service from Sequim to our concerts. Thank you.

Bus provided by Silver City Charter 888.795.0546

If your mailing address or email address changes or if you are receiving this newsletter and would like to be removed from our mailing list, please email us at pasymphony@olyphen.com or call 457-5579. Please help us keep our mailing records accurate and costs as low as possible. Thank you!

Ticket Information

Tickets for Port Angeles Symphony events are available at the following locations:

General Admission Seating :

In Port Angeles: **Port Book and News**
104 E. First
In Sequim: **BeeDazzled at The Buzz**
130 N. Sequim Avenue

Reserved Seating & Season Tickets:

Symphony Office:
216 C North Laurel
457.5579

Tickets are also available at the door.

pasymphony@olyphen.com
www.portangelessymphony.org

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deserves great art.