THE SAN FRANCISCO LESBIAN/GAY FREEDOM BAND

NAMED THE "OFFICIAL BAND OF THE CITY OF SAN FRANCISCO" in honor of its 25th anniversary in 2003, the San Francisco Lesbian/Gay Freedom Band is the first openly gay music organization ever, inspiring the formation of lesbian and gay bands, choruses and performing troupes around the world. Founded in 1978 by Jon Sims at the height of Anita Bryant's anti-gay crusade, the Band debuted marching ahead of Supervisor Harvey Milk's convertible in the San Francisco Gay Freedom Day Parade. The Band has been making music to build understanding between gay and non-gay communities for more than a quarter century.

The Band serves the Bay Area from Santa Clara to Contra Costa and Marin counties with 25-20 annual performances in support of civic and community services, and human rights organizations. Thanks largely to the support of individual donors, SFLGFB has presented community concerts featuring major wind band repertoire free of charge since 1993. Past program themes include women composers, social justice, and hidden messages in music. The Band also annually presents the Dance-Along Nutcracker, a Bay Area holiday tradition, every December at the Yerba Buena Center for the Arts Forum.

SFLGFB is proud that its membership includes straight and non-straight musicians, young and older. The Band welcomes invitations to perform at community events, and inquiries from event volunteers and wind/percussion players looking for musical challenges in a friendly space. We are also currently expanding our new flag corps. For more information, go to www.sflgfb.org, email us at sflgfb@sflgfb.org, or call 415/255-1355.

Please join us for our next community concert on Friday, June 8 with our new Artistic Director, Dr. Roberto-Juan González! Watch for the location and more info at www.sflgfb.org

The SFLGFB is a non-profit and is funded in part by Grants for the Arts of the San Francisco Hotel Tax Fund, the San Francisco Arts Commission, and the Jon Sims Endowment Fund.

MAIL: 584 Castro Street, PMB 841 - San Francisco, CA 94114
TEL: 415/255-1355 | EMAIL: sflgfb@sflgfb.org

www.sflgfb.org
AN ENDURING VIEW
PROGRAM NOTES BY TIMOTHY SMITH

ENDURING WONDER

Stars by Jay Dawson

A relatively new work, the composer captures both the wonder of the vastness of the universe and the brilliance of stars in a creative tone poem.

ENDURING CHALLENGES

Endurance by Timothy Mahr

One of my favorite works by one of my favorite composers, this piece tells the tale of Sir Ernest Shackleton and the crew of the Endurance from 1914 to 1916 when the ship and crew were stranded in Antarctica for 21 months. The piece captures in sound the enduring human spirit and the enduring spirit of the earth.

ENDURING DAILY LIFE

Urban Scenes by Andrew Boysen, Jr.

- Skyline at Sunrise
- The Business Day
- Church Steeples
- Rush Hour
- Skyline at Sunset

This piece is brilliant mini tone poem for band that paints a sound picture of each of these events perfectly.

ENDURING SPIRIT

Caccia and Chorale by Clifton Williams

The last work by one of our most important band composers, the piece was composed after Williams was diagnosed with inoperable cancer. “Caccia” is the Italian word for chase — in this case, how we run through our lives, chasing one thing after another. The Chorale is an intense cry of anguish followed by calm acceptance and peace.

TIMOTHY M. SMITH GUEST CONDUCTOR

Timothy M. Smith, professor of music at California State University, East Bay for 22 years, is the California Music Educators Association Bay Section’s “Outstanding Music Educator of 2006.” Professor Smith teaches undergraduate and graduate courses in the areas of Instrumental Music Education, Music Teacher Preparation and Conducting. For 21 years, he served as Director of Bands, conducting the University Symphonic Band, Wind Ensemble and Chamber Winds Ensembles. He was Music Director/Conductor of the University Symphony Orchestra from 1999-2003 and served a three-year term as Chair of the Department of Music from 2001-2004. In addition to his responsibilities at CSUEB, Professor Smith is in great demand as a guest conductor, adjudicator and clinician. Professor Smith holds degrees in Horn Performance, Conducting, and Music Education from University of the Pacific and School of Music at Northwestern University. He is a former member of the Stockton, Modesto, and Spokane (WA) symphonies and is an active freelance player in the San Francisco Bay Area.

BAND ROSTER

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<th>FLUTE/PICCOLO</th>
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<td>Taka Aoki</td>
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<td>Doug Litwin</td>
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<td>Buddy Symes</td>
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<td>Patty Cummings</td>
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A VIEW OF THE WORLD
Performance notes by composer Brian Balmages

A View of the World is written in memory of Eric Van Nederynen, a member of the Broad Run Band who was killed in a random act of violence. The piece depicts the world as seen through the eyes of a child.

A child is born into a chaotic world
The piece begins by infusing the room with a variety of sounds, all emerging simultaneously. These sounds act as a metaphor, interpreting the chaotic world in which we live.

Surrounded by a bubble of innocence
We then meet a child who is yet to be affected by the world around him; he simply exists in his own universe, unaware of the pressures, difficulties, or stress which may exist outside of his bubble.

The world pushes against the bubble
But the world is unable to break the bubble preserving the child's peace.

He is carried away — the world follows
Despite the innocence of every child, the world is perpetually attempting to penetrate the bubble of their existence — to contaminate something born pure.

He stumps, stubbornly
He is able to feel the world closing in around him, yet determined to remain in his own safe world, but the pressure begins to burst the bubble.

Curiosity consumes him
He becomes intrigued and feels curiosity about the magnificent world around him, a world he is eager to discover. With the pressure and stress of this new world comes wonderful and exciting moments.

Dancing awkwardly
The child embarks on his adventure awkwardly. This section conjures up images of clumsy, little children dancing about, occasionally falling down and getting right back up to jump around again.

A VIEW OF YOUTH
A View of the World by Brian Balmages

A brilliant work, composed in memory of a young band student who lost his life, this piece traces the ever changing view of the world from infancy through young adulthood (see insert). Balmages is one of the most prolific young composers for band today. This was his first big published work.

A VIEW OF HEAVEN
Salvation is Created
by Pavel Tschesnokoff, arr. Bruce Houseknecht

In Memoriam by Mark Camphouse

The transcription of the Russian Orthodox Hymn is well known. In Memoriam was composed to honor a band director who used the hymn as a warm-up with his bands throughout his nearly four decades of service to music education. Mark Camphouse's work captures in sound every human emotion associated with the loss of a loved one.

A VIEW OF WAR / A VIEW OF PEACE / AN ENDURING HOPE

Et In Terra Pax by Jan Van der Roost (narration by Buddy Symes)

Hymn by Brent Heisinger

I had the opportunity to hear the premiere performance of Et In Terra Pax at the 1999 World Association of Symphonic Bands and Ensembles (WASBE) Conference and was completely knocked out. The work is a plea for peace that uses a number of striking musical effects to present this message, including the narration of the poem "Sonnet" by the young English poet, Charles Hamilton Sorley, who was killed during WWI. This poem puts into words the senselessness of war.

We follow this piece immediately with Brent Heisinger's Hymn...a gorgeous, heartfelt piece — presenting an uplifting wish of hope for the future.

SONNET
When you see millions of the mouthless dead
Across your dreams in pale battalions go,
Say not soft things, as other men have said,
That you'll remember. For you need not so.
Give them not praise. For, deaf, how should they know
If is not curses heaped on each gashed head?
Nor tears. Their blind eyes see nor your tears flow.
Nor honour: It is easy to be dead.
Say only this "They are dead." Then add thereto,
"Yet many a better one has died before."
Then, scanning all the overcrowded mass, should you
Perceive one face that you loved heretofore,
It is a spook. None wears the face you knew.
Great death has made all his for evermore.

— CHARLES HAMILTON SORLEY (1895-1915)