

NOTES

November-December 2008



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- Marine Band's 24th Educational Recording
- Sousa's Birthday Honored at Congressional Cemetery
- Marine Brass Ensemble Performs at Marine Corps Worship Service

Rule, Britannia!

The United States Marine Band has recently released its 24th educational recording, *Music from the Land of Hope and Glory*. The recording includes music from five of the most significant British composers of the early 20th century: Sir William Walton, Gordon Jacob, Gustav Holst, Ralph Vaughan Williams, and Sir Edward Elgar.

“When searching for a title for this project, it occurred to me that these selections were all created during the peak of the British Empire, a period when this tiny island nation enjoyed unparalleled influence throughout the world,” said Marine Band Director Colonel Michael J. Colburn. “At the same time, Elgar’s patriotic hymn “Land of Hope and Glory” was adopted as England’s unofficial anthem. This was an era when British composers asserted an unprecedented influence on the orchestral world as well as the newly created and rapidly developing concert band.”

Included on the recording are two cornerstones of wind band repertoire, Holst’s *Hammersmith* and Jacob’s William Byrd Suite. Inspired by the music of the 16th century Elizabethan composer, Jacob’s suite contains six of Byrd’s keyboard works freely adapted for concert band. Holst’s masterpiece for winds, *Hammersmith*, brilliantly depicts the London neighborhood of the same name where the composer lived and worked for much of his life. The Marine Band gave the première performance of

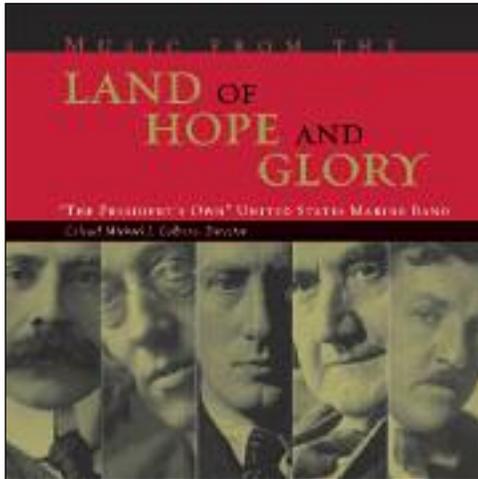
Hammersmith in 1932 at the American Bandmasters Association convention in Washington, D.C., conducted by 20th Director Captain Taylor Branson.

Three of the works on the recording are transcriptions for band from the orchestral originals. Walton’s colorful Scapino, A Comedy Overture is a whimsical tribute to a recurring character in the *commedia dell’arte*, a style of Italian improvisational theater that dates back to the 16th century.

Scapino is a clever and mischievous servant who, despite his humble status, often manipulates events to his advantage. Elgar’s exotic suite *The Crown of India* contains a collection of music written in honor of King George V and Queen Mary’s triumphant return

to England after their coronation ceremony in Delhi. The recording is completed by a new transcription of the Scherzo and Finale from Vaughan Williams’ fiery Symphony No. 4 in F minor.

The Marine Band produces recordings for educational purposes and to enhance the public affairs and community relations of the United States Marine Corps. The recordings are distributed free of charge to educational institutions, public libraries, and radio stations. Because appropriated funds are used, they may not be distributed for private use and are not for sale. For more information, please visit www.marineband.usmc.mil/audio_resources.



Holiday Music Downloads

During the month of December, the Marine Band will make available a collection of holiday musical favorites for download on the “Web Exclusives” section of the Audio Resources webpage. Please visit www.marineband.usmc.mil/audio_resources for downloads.

Marine Band to Provide Music for First Dogs

This December, President George W. Bush’s Scottish terriers, Barney and Miss Beazley, will spend their final Christmas in the White House. Be sure to check the Marine Band’s website to see “The President’s Own” help Barney and Miss Beazley celebrate the season in the 2008 holiday Barney Cam video.

Featured Downloads

November

March of the Month
March With Trumpets
by William Bergsma

Featured Soloist

Horn Concerto No. 1 in E-flat, Opus 11 by Richard Strauss (Featuring guest soloist Jennifer Montone, principal horn of the Philadelphia Orchestra.)

December

March of the Month
Children’s March, “Over the Hills and Far Away”
by Percy Grainger/ed. Rogers

New Music Corner

The Four Humors
by Staff Sergeant Steven Owen*

*Member, U.S. Marine Band

JANUARY

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2009



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“The President’s Own”



UNITED STATES MARINE BAND

SEPTEMBER

OCTOBER

NOVEMBER

DECEMBER

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New Members



Trumpeter/cornetist Staff Sergeant Benjamin Albright of Wilson, N.Y., earned a bachelor of music degree from the State University of New York at Fredonia in 2003. Prior to joining “The President’s Own,” Staff Sgt. Albright performed with the Lansing Symphony Orchestra in Michigan, the Saginaw Bay Symphony Orchestra in Michigan, the National Repertory Orchestra in Breckenridge, Colo., and the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra in New York.



Co-principal oboe Staff Sergeant Rick Basehore of Rochester, N.Y., earned a bachelor of music degree from the Eastman School of Music of the University of Rochester in New York and a master of music degree from the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music. Prior to joining “The President’s Own,” Staff Sgt. Basehore was an oboe fellow with the New World Symphony in Miami Beach, Fla. He has served as principal oboe for the Sarasota Opera Orchestra in Florida, the Des Moines Metro Opera Orchestra in Iowa, and the Kentucky

Symphony Orchestra in Newport. Staff Sgt. Basehore has also held positions with the Virginia Symphony in Norfolk and the Binghamton Philharmonic in New York.

Marine Band Honors Sousa on His Birthday

The Marine Band will mark the 153rd anniversary of John Philip Sousa’s birth with a traditional wreath-laying and musical tribute at his gravesite at 2 p.m., Thursday, Nov. 6, at the Congressional Cemetery located at 1801 E Street, SE. The gravesite ceremony is free and open to the public.

“A Certain Force for Uncertain Times”

A Marine brass ensemble will perform for the annual Marine Corps Worship Service at 4 p.m., Sunday, Nov. 9, at the Washington National Cathedral. Conducted by Assistant Director Captain Michelle A. Rakers, the prelude will begin at 3:30 p.m. and include Aaron Copland’s Ceremonial Fanfare and Johann Sebastian Bach’s Prelude and Fugue in C. This year’s worship service is titled “A Certain Force for Uncertain Times” and will feature Liberty Fanfare by John Williams, The Marines’ Hymn *Apotheosis* by Sammy Nestico, Voluntary on “Old Hundredth” by Henry Purcell, and “America, the Beautiful” sung by Marine Band baritone vocalist Gunnery Sergeant Kevin Benneer. For more information, contact the Washington National Cathedral at (202) 537-6200 or visit www.cathedral.org.

Here We Come a Caroling at Wolf Trap

The Marine Band will perform the annual Holiday Sing-A-Long at 3:30 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 7, at Wolf Trap National Park for the Performing Arts’ Filene Center in Vienna, Va. Assistant Director Captain Michelle A. Rakers will conduct “The President’s Own” in a concert of seasonal works featuring the Marine Band vocalists baritone Gunnery Sergeant Kevin Benneer and mezzo-soprano Staff Sergeant Sara Dell’Omo. Following the concert, the band will accompany the audience in a sing-a-long of traditional holiday music, concluding at dusk when audience members are invited to light candles and illuminate the Filene Center. The concert is free and no tickets are required. For more information, please call Wolf Trap at (703) 255-1900 or visit www.wolftrap.org.

Promotions

To Master Gunnery Sergeant:
Principal tuba Cameron Gates of Eugene, Ore.

To Master Sergeant:
Chief Librarian Jane Cross of Morristown, Tenn.

To Gunnery Sergeant:
Pianist AnnaMaria Mottola of Anchorage, Alaska
Saxophonist Steven Temme of Scottsdale, Ariz.
French horn player Hilary Hart of Princeton, Ky.

Vacancy

Trumpet: Nov. 24-25

For information contact:
Operations Officer
U.S. Marine Band
Marine Barracks
8th and I Streets, SE
Washington, DC 20390-5000
Phone: (202) 433-5714
marineband.operations@usmc.mil

Audition repertoire may be found at www.marineband.usmc.mil. The Marine Band is an equal opportunity employer.

In Memoriam



Stage crewman Sergeant Jorge Leon Alcivar died on July 29. He had been a member of the Marine Band stage crew since September 2007.

Prior to his assignment with the band, he was attached to 3rd Battalion 2d Marine Regiment (3/2) in Camp Lejeune, N.C. Sgt. Leon Alcivar was deployed with 3/2 to Africa in support of Operation Enduring Freedom and with the same unit to Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.