Recital

THE GRINNELL COLLEGE DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC PRESENTS:

The Pipe Organ & Friends

Linda Bryant, Organ
Eric McIntyre, Brass
John Rommereim, Organ
Jeanmarie Chenette, Harp

Sunday, September 24, 2006
4:00 PM
Herrick Chapel
Program

Sixth Symphony Op. 42, No. 6
I. Allegro

Charles Marie Widor (1844-1937)

Sonata per due Organi

Luigi Cherubini (1760-1842)

Linda Bryant and John Rommereim, Organists

Passacaglia and Fugue in c minor BWV 582

J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

Invocation (1984)

Jonathan Chenette
Jeanmarie Chenette, Harp, and Linda Bryant, Organ

Grinnell Fanfare (1948)

Henry Cowell

Grinnell Brass Ensemble directed by Eric McIntyre
Bryan Leland, trumpet
Zack Rider, trumpet
David D’Angelo, trumpet
Guinevere McIntyre, horn
Will Cummins, trombone
Adam Thein, tuba

Blues-Toccata

Mons Leidvin Takle

Program Notes

Charles Marie Widor succeeded Cesar Franck as Professor of Organ at the Paris Conservatoire, and was organist at St. Sulpice in Paris for 64 years. He played one of the great organs built by Cavaille-Coll during that time. He later became Professor of Composition and Director of the Paris Conservatoire. He wrote ten symphonies (technically suites) for organ. This movement uses all the resources of the instrument in grand style.

Luigi Cherubini was born in Italy but lived most of his professional life in Paris where he taught at the Paris Conservatoire from its founding in 1795 and was its director from 1822 until his death. He wrote over 450 works and is most remembered for his 30 operas and an abundance of Catholic church music.
Program Notes

Passacaglia is a form in which a four or eight bar melody in triple meter is introduced alone in the bass. The theme is then repeated again and again as the foundation for a polyphonic structure based on continuous variation involving melodic, harmonic and rhythmic exploration. Bach’s great work includes 20 variations leading to a double fugue which uses the first four bars of the theme as one of its subjects. It is possible that the Passacaglia and Fugue of Bach was inspired by his pilgrimage to Lubeck in 1705-06 to hear Buxtehude.

Invocation (1984; duration 4 minutes) for organ and harp was composed for the dedication of the small organ at St. Paul’s Episcopal Church in Grinnell. Much of the melodic and harmonic material draws inspiration from French music of the early 20th century. The ending develops from several repetitions of a melody fitting the words “Praise God from whom all blessings flow.”

Henry Cowell was commissioned by Grinnell College to write this piece for the 1949 dedication of the organ you are hearing today. Its first performance was for that event and performed with the great Virgil Fox at the organ. Cowell was heavily influenced by non-European and folk music, explored varied sound materials, and especially used the tone cluster as a musical element. That is evident in this piece.

ABOUT THE ORGAN: Virtuoso Virgil Fox dedicated the Aeolian-Skinner of Herrick Chapel in recital on May 19, 1949. It was the gift of the president of the college, Samuel N. Stevens, and his wife, in memory of their parents. It was, and remains, a landmark among instruments in the Midwest.

G. Donald Harrison, then one of the foremost organ builders in the country, directed the construction of the organ. His ideas of tone and technique came from such 19th century European organ builders as Cavaille-Coll, and thus his instruments are particularly suited to Romantic repertoire which they also complement the contrapuntal complexities of classical organ music.

This organ consists of four manual divisions—great, swell, choir, and positive—and a pedal division, with a total of nearly 4,000 pipes and 66 ranks.

A ceremony of rededication was held in 1980. The organ is currently in the midst of a total restoration by the A. Thompson-Allen Company of New Haven, Connecticut. The pipework is scheduled to be removed in January, 2007 which will be the final phase of the restoration project.

Linda Bryant received a degree in Organ Performance from Drake University where she studied with Russell Saunders and Carl Staplin. She earned her Master’s degree in Organ Performance at Valparaiso University where she studied with Philip Gehring. She later also earned a degree in Music Education. She has had a long and varied career as a church musician, elementary and middle school music teacher, and studio piano and organ teacher. She is a Board member of the Central Iowa Chapter of the American Guild of Organists and has been College Organist and Applied Music Associate for Grinnell College since 2001. She is married to the Rev. Dr. C. Eugene Bryant and the mother of two grown sons, Curtis (Anne) and John.
Department of Music Upcoming Events

Beethoven Concert
Eugene Gaub
Thursday, September 28, 2006
11:00 AM
Herrick Chapel

Concert: Trio Kavkasia
Saturday, September 30, 2006
7:30 PM
Sebring-Lewis Hall

Grinnell College Symphony Orchestra
Eric MyIntyre, Conductor
Saturday, October 7, 2006
7:30 PM
Sebring-Lewis Hall

Music 120/220
Student Recital
Thursday, October 26, 2006
12:00 PM
Sebring-Lewis Hall

Music 120/220
Student Recital
Thursday, November 2, 2006
12:00 PM
Sebring-Lewis Hall

Latin American Ensemble
Saturday, November 4, 2006
7:30 PM
Sebring-Lewis Hall

For more information call 641-269-3064