

Ensemble Courant to perform Bach works at weekend concerts

By Max Thorowgood
Staff Writer

Ensemble Courant will present a program of cantatas and concertos by Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750) and his son Carl Philip Emanuel Bach at 8 p.m. Saturday and 3 p.m. Sunday. Strengthening the ranks of the ensemble for the final performance of its '92-93

season will be three guest soloists: oboist Ku Ebbinge, soprano and Chapel Hill resident Penelope Jensen, and harpsichordist David Schulenberg of the UNC Music Department.

The performers have glittering records and specialize in the baroque period. Jensen has sung with symphony orchestras throughout the United States and has participated in numerous Bach

festivals. Ebbinge, long an advocate of the cause-original instrument performance, has played with several prominent instrument ensembles in Europe. Ensemble Courant also espouses this cause; its program notes point out the regular performers' authenticity in this regard.

Schulenberg is new to the music faculty but has already given a harpsichord

recital on campus.

The disparity between the numbers of works by father and son will be in evidence in this weekend's performances. In his time, the day to which Ensemble Courant hearkens, J.S. Bach was not a resounding success, although subsequent ages have lauded him as one of the greatest composers ever. His son, by contrast, now sunk to comparative

obscurity in the shadow of his illustrious father, was in his lifetime court chamber musician to Frederick the Great of Prussia and personally accompanied His Highness in endless flute sonatas and concertos — an object lesson indeed in the fickleness of human fame and fortune.

The program is varied and should provide for a variety of tastes. It will

consist of J.S. Bach's "Concerto for Oboe, Violin, Strings and Continuo"; the "Wedding Cantata"; "Ich bin vernümt mit meinem Glücke"; BMV 84; and arias from BMV 61 and 82. C.P.E. Bach's "Double Concerto for Two Harpsichords and Strings" will also be performed.

Tickets for the concerts are \$5 for students and will be sold at the door.

Howes

Hunt joked that at a funeral Howes once asked if he could change places with the dead man.

"It'll be all right with me if it's all right with the undertaker," Hunt said.

Many of Howes' friends and colleagues joked that the former mayor loved to travel — on Chapel Hill's expense account.

David Godschalk, a former council member and University professor of city and regional planning, pretended to be Howes. "It is not true, as some of my detractors have suggested, that the decline of American Airlines' Raleigh-Durham hub can be traced to my stepping down as mayor of Chapel Hill or

that Governor Hunt has asked me personally to step up my travel schedule again in order to increase air traffic," Godschalk said, imitating Howes.

Before the roast, Howes said he didn't relish the thought of being roasted.

"I'm looking forward to it being over," he said.

Howes said the planners of the event would not divulge the roasters' names before the event, other than to say Hunt would "pre-heat" him.

Hakan continually prodded his roasters to intensify their insults. Other roasters included Robert Howes and Mary Howes, the former mayor's father and wife, respectively.

Economy

ment, which relied heavily on taxes and was a major factor in President Bush's defeat.

"If Congress were to pass it as it stands right now, it would have pretty detrimental effects on the economy over the next couple of years," Smith said.

He added that the plan would have a negative impact on the job market soon after it was enacted.

Thad Beyle, a UNC professor of political science, also thought younger students would benefit most from the plan.

"If you're a freshman, it may help you out," Beyle said. "This is a long-term thing."

Beyle also said students should not be overly concerned about the proposed tax increase.

"The taxes are justified," Beyle said. "The taxes aren't going to affect you guys very much because very few seniors are going to come out of college making more than \$30,000 a year."

Katherine Wilson, a UNC senior and president of the Young Democrats, also said she believed most students would not be affected by the tax increases.

"I don't foresee myself getting a job that will put me in the upper class, ... and Bill Clinton's tax package is not geared toward the middle class," Wilson said.

She also was optimistic about Clinton's ability to turn the economy around.

"I trust Bill Clinton's judgment," Wilson said.

"We all have to realize that when we voted in Bill Clinton, there were going

to be some changes, ... but it's going to benefit us in the long run," she said.

But Smith said students should not accept the tax hikes without questions. It is up to college students to send a message to Clinton, he said.

"You ought to say 'Show me why more taxes are necessary. Why can't we concentrate on cutting spending first?'" Smith said.

Charlton Allen, a UNC senior and co-president of the UNC Young Republicans, agreed that despite Clinton's rhetoric, the new administration was raising taxes and not giving enough attention to spending cuts.

"If he were serious, he would have real proposals. Everything he has is symbolic," Allen said.

Allen said if the plan were enacted, the economy would suffer, although the full impact might not be felt for several years.

"I think it will shrink the job base, balloon the deficit and not really do much to increase revenue," he said.

"Most of the time the government can't screw anything up with the economy within the first year or two. But it's possible that the effects could be felt toward the end of his term," Allen said.

But Allen also believed the plan would not pass Congress without being altered due to a lack of congressional support.

"I don't think his plan is going to be enacted as it stands now," Allen said. "I don't think the Democrats are going to try to work with Clinton on this plan, much less the Republicans."

Despite Republican arguments that Clinton's plan contains typical Democratic tax-and-spend proposals, Beyle said the Republicans would have to counter Clinton with concrete spending cut proposals to justify their criticisms.

"They feel that their complaint is legitimate because the Democrats come in and tax and spend," Beyle said. "And they say they need to cut. So Clinton comes back in and says, 'Okay, you show me where to cut.' So unless they come up with something specific, saying 'You can cut here and here and here,' then people are going to say 'You guys are all rhetoric.'"

In fact, some people already are accusing Republicans of just that.

"I see it as a partisan response," said

Christine Morris, a UNC graduate student studying English. "At this point I don't think we have much choice."

Morris also said she was willing to pay higher taxes if it would help reduce the budget deficit.

"If we can raise taxes and make a serious dent in the deficit, I think it's worth it," Morris said.

Other students also said higher taxes were a necessary evil but added that they were counting on Clinton to make spending cuts as well.

Students said they thought the president knew before the election that he would have to raise taxes on the middle class.

"He needs to get spending cuts done before he raises taxes to prove they're serious about it and not just taking the easy way out," said Steven Simmons, a senior economics major. "I guess they are necessary, but I think he probably knew what he was going to have to do before he was elected."

Carolyn Highsmith, a junior nursing major, agreed.

"I don't want taxes without cuts in spending," Highsmith said. "(But) I knew the reality before the election. We're going to have to do some drastic things, and we do have to sacrifice."

Simmons and Highsmith both said they did not think Clinton's economic proposals would affect the job market immediately.

"I don't think that's really going to change a lot in the short term," Simmons said.

But other students were less forgiving of Clinton's broken promises and more concerned about the economic plan's effect on their future.

"There's got to be something done to fix the deficit ... but he said he wasn't going to tax the middle class, and he is," said David Boyd, a freshman chemistry major. "I'm not as secure with him as I would be with, say, Bush. He has to prove himself ... and I don't think he's going to be able to."

Regardless of their opinions about Clinton's economic package, most of those surveyed were willing to give the president credit for having taken some action.

"There's a program on the table, and it's a good bet that Congress is going to do something significant this year," said Smith.

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