

# Wind Ensemble performance 'A Salute to Our Veterans'

By Carmen Boone  
Arts & Life Editor

The Brevard College Wind Ensemble held a concert in Scott Concert Hall in the Porter Center on Friday, Nov. 9 at 7:30 p.m. It was called "A Salute to Our Veterans" in honor of Veterans Day.

The first song on the program was "American Salute" written by Morton Gould and arranged by Wagner. It was based on the tune "When Johnny Comes Marching Home," and was composed upon the request for a song to salute America.

The second piece of the night was called "Lux Aurumque," a piece written by Eric Whitacre. The translation of the Latin is "Light, warm and heavy as pure gold and angels sing softly to the newborn babe." The song was very lyrical and legato, and a little more serious than the first.

"Simple Gifts: Four Shaker Songs," written by Frank Ticheli, was conducted by senior BC student Stephen Healy. The four songs included "In Yonder Valley" by Father James Whitacre, "Dance" from a Shaker manuscript, "Here Take this Lovely Flower" from The Shaker Spiritual and "Simple Gifts" by Elder Joseph Brackett. The program listed the tunes as "a sensuous nature song, a lively dance tune, a tender lullaby, and most famously, Simple Gifts, the hymn that celebrates the Shakers love of simplicity and humility."

The next song was "El Camino Real – A Latin Fantasy" written by Alfred Reed. The program said the song "is a fantasia based on the harmonic movement of traditional Spanish folk dances often performed by flamenco guitarists." The song was fairly long and seemed to tell a story that changed pace throughout, with a very big, loud finish.

After a brief intermission, Senior Music Major Stephen Healy

performed a tuba solo in "Concertino for Tuba and Band" composed by James Curnow. The director, Dr. Eric Peterson, mentioned that the tune emphasised the range of a tuba and it showed lyrical as well as technical abilities of a tuba player.

The next three pieces were specifically "A Salute to Our Veterans." Before the first, a recording of a speaker was played, speaking about the armed forces and the sacrifice made for our nation. The first song after that was "O'er the Land of the Free" written by Johnny Vinson. It was "interwoven with the opening motives of 'America the Beautiful' and 'The Star Spangled Banner.'"

The next piece was "The Greatest Generation" written by Robert W. Smith. United States Marine Corporal Rick Ledford had a reading throughout the piece. The music was written for the 75th anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor. The program added, "This stirring tribute to those that changed our world in WWII also pays tribute to all who have served in our armed forces. We thank those that served above self and insured liberty for Americans past, present and future."

The last piece of the night was "A United States Armed Forces Medley." Veterans were asked to stand for the branch that they served in. "Semper Paratus or Always Ready" was for the U.S. Coast Guard. Next was "The U.S. Air Force," then "Anchors Aweigh" for the U.S. Navy. After that was "The Marines' Hymn" for the U.S. Marine Corps. Last was "The Army Goes Rolling Along" for the U.S. Army.

The concert was a great way to honor our veterans. It was very well done and it was clear that a lot of hard work went into it. The concert was also given on the 100th anniversary of WWI. It was such a moving night, complete with great music.

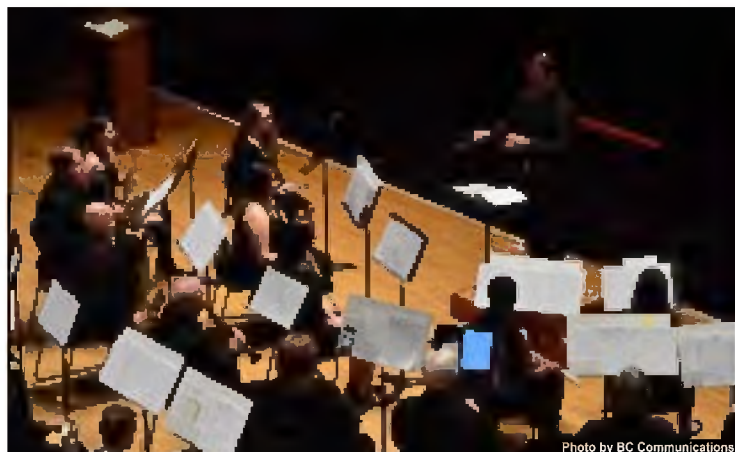


Photo by BC Communications



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(Left) Stephen Healy conducts the Wind Ensemble for Frank Ticheli's "Simple Gifts: Four Shaker Songs." (Right) Healy performs "Concertino for Tuba and Band" by James Curnow, accompanied by the Wind Ensemble.