THE EASTMAN SCHOOL ARCHIVES Eastman School of Music Rochester, New York

W. FRANCIS MCBETH PAPERS (1961 - 1992)

INTRODUCTION

This collection was donated to the Eastman School Archives in 1993 by its creator, W. Francis McBeth.

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(R to L): Howard Hanson, Ruth T. Watanabe, David Williams, unidentified student, W. Francis McBeth. Photograph from ESPA 27-3 (8x10).

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE: W. FRANCIS MCBETH (1933 -)

W. Francis McBeth was born March 9, 1933, in Lubbock, Texas. He studied composition with Kent Kennan and Clifton Williams, earning degrees at Hardin-Simmons University in Abilene (B.M. 1954, D.Mus. 1973) and at the University of Texas (M.Mus. 1957). He also studied at the Eastman School with Bernard Rogers and Howard Hanson during the summers of 1959 to 1964, and in 1963 his Symphony No. 3 won the school's Howard Hanson Prize.

In 1957 Dr. McBeth joined the faculty of Ouachita University in Arkadelphia, Arkansas, where he has served as Chairman of the Department of Theory and Composition and Resident Composer. He was conductor of the Arkansas Symphony Orchestra from 1969 to 1973, and has appeared as guest conductor with orchestras in the USA, Canada, Europe, and Japan.

While having written for various combinations of instruments, Dr. McBeth's primary medium is band or wind orchestra (as is amply reflected in the contents of the present collection), and a number of his commissions have come from high school bands. Dr. McBeth is a member of ASCAP, Phi Mu Alpha, and the American Bandmasters Association (for which he served on the Board of Directors from 1980 to 1982). His awards include the Edwin Franko Award of the American School Band Directors Association (1983), and a Fellowship to the Academy of Wind and Percussion Arts from the National Bandmasters Association (1984). He was named Composer Laureate of the State of Arkansas by Governor Bob C. Riley in 1975.

Dr. McBeth has written two books: Effective Performance of Band Music (1972), and New Theories of Theory (1979).

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The collection is comprised mainly of bound manuscript copies of roughly half of Dr. McBeth's numbered works. There are also a number of published copies, as well as a series of recordings entitled, "McBeth Conducts McBeth".

ARRANGEMENT

The scores are arranged by opus number, with those pieces without a stated opus number appended in chronological order.

Works With Opus Number

- 1. Scherzo (piano), 3/8/61, op. 23
- 2. Allegro Agitato (orchestra), 7/19/61, op. 24
- 3. Chant and Jubilo (band), 12/31/61, op. 25
- 4. Quanah An Elegy to Quanah Parker (orchestra), 1/27/63, op. 26
- 5. Five Projections for Piano, 10/14/62, op. 27
- 6. Mosaic (band), 12/14/63, op. 29
- 7. In Reflections Past (band), 3/7/64, op. 30
- 8. The Snow Leopard (soprano, clarinets and percussion), 4/16/65, op. 31
- 9. Joyant Narrative (band), 7/5/65, op. 34
- 10. Battaglia (band), 7/65, op. 36
- 11. Canticle for Eleven Winds and Mallet Percussion, 4/16/66, op. 37
- 12. Cantique and Faranade (band), 11/24/66, op. 39

- 13. Billy in the Darbies, A Dramatic Chorale for Women's Chorus, Men's Speech Choir and Ensemble, 5/15/67, op. 40
- 14. Masque (band), 11/19/67, op. 44
- 15. Four Frescoes for Five Brass, 4/6/69, op. 47
- 16. Drammatico (band), 2/15/69, op. 48
- 17. Divergents (band), 10/24/69, op. 49
- 18. The Seventh Seal (band), 6/28/71, op. 50
- 19. Centennial Feste (band), 3/73, op. 51
- 20. To be Fed by Ravens (band), 12/2/73, op. 52
- 21. Grace Praeludium and Response (orchestra), 9/27/74, op. 53
- 22. Capriccio Concertant (band), 12/1/74, op. 54
- 23. "The Badlands" from Capriccio Concertante (orchestra), 12/1/74, op. 54a
- 24. Kaddish (band), 10/75, op. 57
- 25. Kaddish (orchestra), 10/75, also op. 57
- 26. Eulogies by The Bard of Great Falls (choir with narrators), 3/76, op. 60
- 27. Eulogies (printed copy)
- 28. Canto (band), 9/23/77, op. 61
- 29. Caccia (band), 1/7/79, op 62
- 30. Cavata (band), 3/6/79, op. 63
- 31. The Feast of Trumpets (band), 1/25/81, op. 64
- 32. Tenebrae (chorus), 10/28/82, op. 67
- 33. Tenebrae (printed copy)
- 34. Praises (band), 2/13/83, op. 70
- 35. Beowulf, An Heroic Trilogy (band), 1/1/84, op. 71
- 36. To The Unknowns (band), 11/12/84, op. 73
- 37. With Sounding Trumpets (band), 1/2/86, op. 74
- 38. The Fifth Trumpeter (band and trumpet solo), 3/20/87, op. 75
- 39. The Gathering of The Waters (men's voices with small band), 5/16/88, op.76
- 40. They Hung Their Harps in The Willows (band), 7/3/88, op. 77
- 41. Of Sailors and Whales (band), 6/20/89, op. 78
- 42. Drayton Hall (band), 12/30/90, op. 79
- 43. Daniel in the Lion's Den (solo F-tuba with band), 1/22/92, op. 80
- 44. The Land of El Dorado (band), 3/92, op. 81
- 45. Missa Brevis (mixed chorus, organ, and bells), 6/5/92, op. 82

No Opus Number Given

- 46. Young Thought (high voice and piano), 7/31/58
- 47. The Lamentation and the Gloria of David (medium voice and piano), 9/6/58
- 48. Cavata (band; distinct from op. 63, above), 12/59
- 49. Symphony No. 3, 1963
- 50. Come Wandering Shepherds (mixed chorus), no date given
- 51. Come Wandering Shepherds, (printed copy), 1980
- 52. Let's Give Them a Hand (clapping and stomping), 1988
- 53. Three Pieces for Piano, undated

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