The Palmetto Posaunen

Matt Anderson
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Scott Barnstead
Allen Beck
Mark Britt
Joe Brown
George L. Broussard
Chuck Capps
Marshall Carson
Daniel Cherry
Bruce Clark
Milton Clinkscales
Linda R. Davis
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Michael Doll
Brad Edwards
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John Hellberg
Don Hough
Joe Hughes
Steve Jackson
Phil Jameson
Paul Jantz
Jeff Kuntz
Robert Kehrberg
Ross Kennedy
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Joey Lee
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Paul Overly
Carl Polk
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Tad Riddle
Sean Smith
Jim Sparrow
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John Upchurch
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Ross Walter
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The Fifty-Seventh Annual

2003

Midwest Clinic

An International Band and Orchestra Conference

The Palmetto Posaunen

Mark E. Britt, Conductor

John Upchurch, Royce Lumpkin, Guest Conductors

The Palmetto Posaunen is a trombone ensemble comprised of university trombone professors, symphony musicians, freelance trombonists, and band directors. Founded in 1997 by Dr. Mark E. Britt, Low Brass Professor at Furman University, members of the ensemble represent five states across the southeast (SC, NC, GA, TN, VA). This unique blend of the leading pedagogues and performers from the region is one of only a small number of professional trombone choirs in the country. With a mission of excellence in performance and education, the group is dedicated to advancing the trombone and its literature.

Due to the large geographical area from which it members are drawn, the rehearsal schedule for the group is unique. A typical performance year consists of four rehearsals during the fall, followed by two to three performances throughout the academic year. If there is a significant time span between performances, the group will convene for an additional rehearsal. All rehearsals take place on the campus of Furman University. In preparation for their appearance at Midwest, the group has scheduled one rehearsal per month since August. Since the members of the group fund their own travel expenses, rehearsals and performances are carefully planned to minimize travel time and avoid conflicts with the various university-related and performance commitments the players must honor. As one might expect, travel time is a significant factor in choosing rehearsal and performance dates. In fact, some members have a 6-hour trip (one way) to get to rehearsal!

There are approximately forty members who play with the group on a rotating basis depending on their individual availability. The ensemble typically performs with 18-24 members and the personnel changes for each performance. The ensemble draws its "Palmetto" association from the fact that the original group consisted of 8 trombonists all from South Carolina. Members in today's performance represent 16 universities, 10 band programs, and 16 symphony orchestras. A brief perusal of our members' individual biographies will reveal a training background that represents the leading music schools and trombone teachers in the country. It is this diversity which creates the unique character, strength, and appeal of this organization.

Based in Greenville, South Carolina the ensemble has appeared at the 1998, 1999, 2000, and 2001 SCMEA Conferences, the 1997 and 1998 Southeastern Brass Workshops, the 1999 and 2000 Southern Appalachian Low Brass Retreats at Mars Hill College, Furman University, Gardner-Webb University, and performed via invitation at the 2001 Eastern Trombone Workshop in Washington, DC and the 2003 Southern Division MENC Conference in Savannah, GA. Additionally, the group has been invited to perform at the MENC 59th National Biennial In-Service Conference to be held April 2004 in Minneapolis. The group is honored to being its first appearance at The Midwest Clinic. Past performances by the ensemble have met with wide acclaim and they are developing a reputation as one of the foremost trombone ensembles in the country.

Mark E. Britt, trombonist, joined the faculty of Furman University as the low brass professor in 1995. He serves as a coach for the brass chamber music program, teaches music education courses, conducts the Trombone and Brass choirs and has been a featured soloist with both the Furman Wind Ensemble and Furman Symphony Orchestra. A noted chamber musician, Dr. Britt is a member of the Zephyr Brass. Recent tours with this group include performances at the International Brassfest, the International Horn Society Symposium, and the College Band Directors National Association Southern Division Conference. He has performed at the Eastern Trombone Workshop, and the 1999 International Trombone Festival where he was a member of the William Cramer Memorial Trombone Choir.

Currently Dr. Britt is principal trombonist with the Greater Spartanburg Philharmonic and was a recent soloist with the Hendersonville Symphony Orchestra. He is a former member of the Tallahassee Symphony, the Winston-Salem Symphony, the Valdosta Symphony, and the Western Piedmont Symphony. Dr. Britt can be heard frequently with the Greenville Symphony and most recently performed with Keith Brion's New Sousa Band. He performed this past summer as part of the International Chamber Seminar in Telfes, Austria.

Dr. Britt maintains a keen interest in music education and is active in several organizations. He serves as the Teacher Education Chairman for the South Carolina Music Educators Association, and is on the MENC Collegiate Advisory Council where he is the National Chair-elect of that council. His articles have appeared in BANDWORLD, The Instrumentalist, the North Carolina Music Educators Journal, the International Trombone Journal, the Texas Bandmasters Journal, and Teaching Music. Dr Britt also serves as adjunct trombone instructor at North Greenville College in Tigerville, South Carolina.

Prior to his appointment at Furman, Dr. Britt served on the faculties of Valdosta State University, Columbus State University, Appalachian State University, and he taught four years in the North Carolina public schools. His music degrees are from Appalachian State University, Northwestern University, and The Florida State University. His principal teachers have been Harold McKinney, the late Frank Crisafulli (Chicago Symphony) and John Drew.

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1. Sieben Bagatellen Editio Musica . . . . . Frigyes HIDAS *[1:19]*
   John Beckford, Timpani
2. Reflections and Rattledance ITA Press . . . . . John Cheetham *[6:36]*
   John Beckford, Percussion
3. I'm Getting Sentimental Over You Hip-Bone Music
   . . . . . .Ned Washington and George Bassman/arr. Michael Davis *[4:50]*
   Steve Wilson, Soloist

   Capriol Suite Will Sudmeier's . . . . . Peter Warlock/arr. Will Sudmeier
4. I. Mattachins *[1:31]*
5. IV. Basse-Danse *[2:46]*
6. VI. Bransles *[2:53]*
   John Upchurch, Conductor
7. On a Hymnsong of Philip Bliss Manuscript . . . . . David Holsinger/arr. William Harbinson *[5:11]*
   Royce Lumpkin, Conductor; Mark Britt, George Broussard, Sean Smith, Ted Vaughan, Solo Quartet
8. Achieved is the Glorious Work from *The Creation* Ensemble Press
   . . . . . .Franz Joseph Haydn/arr. Donald Miller *[3:00]*
9. The Colorado Trail Manuscript . . . . . Traditional/arr. Buddy Baker *[3:19]*
   Harold McKinney, Soloist
10. Obscurity Manuscript . . . . . Rick Simerly/arr. Cameron McManus *[7:39]*
    Rick Simerly, Soloist
    Bill Swann, Piano; Rusty Holloway, Double Bass; Keith Brown, Drums
11. Get Out and Stay Out Walrus Music . . . . . Ian McDougall *[3:51]*
    Rick Simerly, Soloist
    Bill Swann, Piano; Rusty Holloway, Double Bass; Keith Brown, Drums
12. Seventy-Six Trombones Cala Music . . . . . Meredith Willson/arr. Eric Crees *[4:49]*
    The United States Army Field Band Trombone Section, Guest Artists
    John Beckford, Auxiliary Percussion; Keith Brown, Drum Set

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