

Eclectic Works for Wind Band

By ERIN FLETCHER
VP of the Wind Symphony
Executive

The University of Prince Edward Island Department of Music Recital Series will be presenting the UPEI Wind Symphony, under the direction of Dr. Karem J. Simon, in concert this Wednesday, Mar. 29 at 7:30 p.m. in the Dr. Steele Recital Hall. Tickets may be purchased at the door and are \$5 for Adults and \$3 for Students and Seniors.

The UPEI Wind Symphony is composed of UPEI students, from Music and other departments, as well as many members

from Charlottetown's musical community -- including local professionals and UPEI Music alumni.

This semester, the Wind Symphony will be augmented with several Grade 12 students from PEI High Schools who plan to attend UPEI next fall. A performance by the UPEI Percussion Ensemble under the direction of Mr. Dave Shephard will be featured.

Titled *Eclectic Works for Wind Band*, Sunday's performance presents original pieces for wind band composed since 1945. The center piece on the program is *Suite Française* by the French

composer Darius Milhaud. Written in 1945, it is a celebration of french folk songs in a setting that occasionally evokes the horrors and tragedies of the German occupation of France during the second world war.

Another selection, *Morning Alleluias* by Ron Nelson, is an attempt to portray, in musical terms, the feelings felt while awaking one morning in a Hiroshima hotel that was ablaze with brilliant morning sunlight.

This concert will truly prove to be a worthwhile experience and we look forward to seeing you there!

Choral music for a holy day

The Confederation Singers and guest soloists under the direction of Donald Fraser will present a Sacred concert on Good Friday in the beautiful Kirk of St. James Church, Charlottetown. It is anticipated that this event will become an annual tradition in Prince Edward Island as it is in other locations, such as in Toronto's Metropolitan United Church. On behalf of the Confederation Singers, Music Director Donald Fraser welcomes all those celebrating the Christian holiday and those who simply wish to hear the glorious music and particularly moving works and artful music to this inaugural concert. The music of French composers Gabriel Fauré and Louis Vierne will be featured in this concert on a Holy Day.

The five sections of Vierne's powerful Solemn Organ Mass compliments Gabriel Faure's much loved work, Requiem, says Fraser, Arranged in seven sections, The Requiem abounds in lovely melody and rich harmony. It has been described as a work which makes us neither tremble nor weep, but rather suggests a happy deliverance. Shirley Cameron, who has sung frequently with the Summerside Community Choir, will be heard in the now famous and exquisite Pie Jesu solo, while Stephen Bouey, who recently performed with the PEI Symphony, will be heard in the Offertorium and Libera Me sections of The Requiem. Frances McBurnie, organist at the Kirk of St. James and Anne White, organist at

Hillcrest United Church, Montague, will assist in the afternoon performance. This concert of French works will be prefaced by the chorale preludes of German composer J. S. Bach played by organist Donald Fraser.

Choral Music for a Holy Day, will be held on April 2, 1999 at 3:00 p.m. at the Kirk of St. James, tickets are \$9 (\$1 discount for Students and Seniors). Tickets are available at the Church's Fitzroy Street side door, and at the Confederation Centre Box Office Monday through Saturday, 12 noon - 5:30 p.m., phone: (902) 566-1267 and toll free 1 (800) 565-0278. Media Sponsors are: The Guardian, Magic93, 720CHTN, and 630CFY.

Other upcoming choral performances and activities of the Confederation Centre of the Arts include: the annual Choral Music Fundraising and Awards Dinner in honour of the Children's Chorus on April 15 at 7:30 p.m. in the Memorial Hall of the Centre; the annual spring tour of the Children's Chorus in April to New York City; The Glory of Mozart by the Confederation Singers, orchestra and featured soloists on May 2 at 7:30 p.m. on the Mainstage; and, Voices of Spring by the Children's Chorus on May 9 at 3:00 p.m., also on the Centre's Mainstage. New choir members are welcome.

Those interested in learning about choir registration may call Donald Fraser at (902) 628-6144 for information.



UPEI Wind Symphony, under the direction of Dr. Karem J. Simon, in concert this Wednesday, Mar. 29 at 7:30 p.m. in the Dr. Steele Recital Hall