presents

Senior Tuba Recital

Ryan Williamson

March 26th, 2021
5:10 p.m.
Bryan Hall Theatre
Rodger Vaughan (1932-2012) was a tuba composer and arranger who taught tuba at Cal State Fullerton, University of Wichita, USC, and Upland College. He composed several well-known tuba works between the 1950’s and the 1990’s and arranged more than 50 pieces for the Tubadours Quartet. The Suite for Tuba (1971) is a piece that uses atonal (without a note to call “home”) melodies to convey different expressions. The first and fourth movements project bold, victorious power, the second movement seems agitated, and the third movement is somber and quiet. Each movement includes a contrast from the main thematic material, giving the music a true blend of musical tastes.

James Curnow (b. 1943) is a composer for concert band, brass band, vocal/instrumental solos, and vocal/instrumental ensembles. Born in Michigan, James Curnow has published more than 800 works in total and has travelled throughout the US, Canada, Australia, Japan, and Europe as an acclaimed clinician, conductor, and composer. He serves as the Composer-in-Residence Emeritus for Asbury University in Wilmore, Kentucky. The Concertino for Tuba (2001) is a modern work that makes use of modal harmonies rather than the usual major and minor. The melody of this piece is extensively comprised of fourth and fifth intervals based around two key centers (F and Ab). Melodic ideas are frequently passed back and forth between the tuba and the piano accompaniment. There are several sequential passages throughout the piece that are only comprised of the interval of a perfect fourth. While being written recently, this piece seems to be heavily influenced by the impressionism era of the early 1900’s.