

THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE CEREMONIAL BRASS

WASHINGTON, D.C.

*Tower
Music*

CAPTAIN ROBERT A. POULIOT, CONDUCTOR

Brass fanfares have played an important role in the protection of towns and villages for hundreds of years. In Medieval Europe, musicians placed themselves on towers around the city walls to announce the arrival of dignitaries, enemies, and even the time of day. These signals and alarms came to be known as “tower music,” and represent one of the oldest and most effective types of ceremonial music for brass. By the seventeenth century, tower music had become more sophisticated. Johann Christoph Pezel (1639-1694), one of the composers of tower music in the German city of Leipzig, gave the name “Hora decima” to his collection of sonatas for four and five players. Pezel, whose **Sonata No. 12** appears on this recording, intended his sonatas to function as ceremonial and concert music at public gatherings.

Meanwhile, Venice had become an important center for brass playing in southern Europe. When brass music entered the church during the late sixteenth century, its fanfare-like qualities were joined with the “cori spezzati” style of the Venetian school of composition. This meant that two or more “choirs” of instruments could be placed in separate galleries of the chapel and perform music whose imitative style was enhanced by the spatial separation of the groups. Such instrumental techniques led to the elaborate antiphonal sonatas and canzonas by Andrea Gabrieli (ca. 1520-1586) and his nephew Giovanni Gabrieli (ca. 1556-1612). **Canzon duodecimi toni** is an example of the Venetian polychordal style as applied to brass instruments.

The music of Pezel and the Gabriellis represents perhaps the greatest architectural influence on music and marks the beginning of the acceptance of brass instruments into the sphere of art music. Their work with ceremonial and church music also laid the foundation for the rich outpouring of brass composition that continues today. On this recording, The United States Air Force Ceremonial Brass presents an anthology of brass music dating from the sixteenth century to the present.

One selection that unites the past and present is **Tower Music** by Polish-American composer Karol Rathaus (1895-1954). **Tower Music** is a contemporary piece for brass quintet, undoubtedly inspired by the contrapuntal style of the Gabriellis. The composer harkens back to the early masters of tower music by creating a flowing, imitative slow section, while maintaining decidedly modern harmonies. The second section, marked “Andante marziale,” resembles a fast movement from a baroque orchestral suite in both spirit and form.

The **Funeral March** by Edvard Grieg (1843-1907) is the work of one of Norway’s foremost composers. Grieg composed the march in 1866, after learning of the death of composer Richard Nordraak--a close friend and fellow Norwegian. Originally written for piano solo, Grieg arranged the piece for military band in 1867 and made a third version for brass choir in 1878. An orchestrated version was performed at Grieg’s funeral in 1907, but the march was largely forgotten until its rediscovery by Geoffrey Emerson in the 1960’s.

Another style of great importance to the brass repertoire is that of the British brass band, represented here by the **March** from **A Moorside Suite** by Gustav Holst (1874-1934) and the **Little Suite for Brass** by Malcolm Arnold (1921-). In 1991 The United States Air Force Band commissioned Malcolm Arnold to compose a commemorative fanfare for its Fiftieth Anniversary Celebration. **The United States Air Force Band Fanfare**, which makes its recording debut on this album, is based on a theme from Arnold's sixth symphony and was premiered by the band at its Fiftieth Anniversary Concert in September of 1991.

Three other pieces also make their recording debut here. **Chrome Templates** features a concertino of piccolo trumpets whose brilliant tone color is contrasted with the broad sound of the large brass and percussion ensemble. The three-movement tone poem was composed by Mel Broiles (1929-), principal trumpeter of the Metropolitan Opera Orchestra since 1958. **Chrome Templates** is one of several pieces composed by Mr. Broiles and dedicated to his students at the Tanglewood Music Center. Ceremonial Brass member and arranger MSgt Jari Villanueva (1955-) has contributed **Fairfield Fanfare** and **Honor with Dignity**. **Fairfield Fanfare** was composed for the opening of the Fairfield, California Creative Arts Center in 1988. **Honor with Dignity** takes its name from the motto of The United States Air Force Honor Guard at Bolling Air Force Base, to whom this march is dedicated.

Leonard Bernstein (1918-1990) was truly America's most versatile

musician. While leading a successful career as an internationally celebrated conductor, he found time to compose for orchestra, chamber ensembles, stage, and film. The very rhythmic and driving **Presto Barbaro** is a selection from Bernstein's film score for Columbia Pictures' 1954 release, "On the Waterfront."

The ensemble also performs two American hymns--**Nearer My God to Thee** by Lowell Mason (1792-1872) and the traditional spiritual **Amazing Grace**. These two hymns are commonly performed by the Ceremonial Brass at Arlington National Cemetery. The recording concludes with an arrangement of the ever-popular **Battle Hymn** and the rousing march **Rolling Thunder** by Henry Fillmore (1881-1956).

Today, amidst the monuments and great works of architecture which commemorate our past, The United States Air Force Ceremonial Brass continues the ancient tradition of announcing state guests at military and government-sponsored events in our nation's capital. It is the most visible of all The United States Air Force Band's performing units, providing the finest musical support for state arrivals at the White House, full honor arrivals for foreign dignitaries at the Pentagon, retirements, changes of command, awards ceremonies, patriotic programs, and funerals at Arlington National Cemetery. In addition to ceremonial commitments, the Ceremonial Brass performs in concert several times each year. The repertoire contained in this recording is a sampling of the music performed by the ensemble in ceremonies and concerts in the nation's capital.

CAPTAIN ROBERT A. POULIOT, *CONDUCTOR*

Captain Robert A. Pouliot, executive officer and associate conductor of The United States Air Force Band, is a native of Woonsocket, R.I. He began his musical training at an early age, studying both trumpet and piano and displaying an early interest in conducting and composition. He was the first Herbert France Scholar at the University of Connecticut, where he earned the bachelor of music degree in music theory and the master of music degree in conducting. His conducting teachers have included Larry Rachleff, Jerome Laszloffy, Gene Young, and Edward Markward. He studied trumpet with William Vacchiano, Mel Broiles, and William Babcock.

Before entering the Air Force, Captain Pouliot was active as a church musician in Rhode Island and Connecticut. He founded and was the first musical director of Connecticut's Northeast Chamber Ensemble. He has directed several instrumental and choral ensembles as well as music for the theater, arranging and directing the music for the Nutmeg Theatre Company's production of "A Christmas Carol."

Captain Pouliot was selected as an Air Force band officer candidate and entered Officer Training School in April of 1986. He accepted his commission in the United States Air Force in July of that same year and was assigned deputy commander and assistant conductor of The Military Airlift Command Band, Scott Air Force Base, Ill., where he served from August of 1986 to July of 1989. While with the MAC Band, Captain Pouliot was responsible for various musical duties, including directing the Concert Band and the Shades of Blue Jazz Ensemble in tour performances throughout the Midwest and in South and Central America. He was also responsible for producing various recording projects for the MAC Band, including "We the People: Birth of

a Dream,” selected by the Department of Defense as their official recording commemorating the Bicentennial of the Constitution.

In July of 1989, Captain Pouliot assumed command of The Air Force Band of the East at McGuire Air Force Base, N.J., where he carried on that group’s tradition of supporting Air Force community relations and recruiting missions throughout New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Delaware. On July 4th, 1990 The Air Force Band of the East, under Captain Pouliot’s baton, was featured in a nationally broadcast performance from Philadelphia over ABC’s “Good Morning America.” After the Air Force of the East’s deactivation in the summer of 1991, Captain Pouliot accepted his current position as executive officer of The United States Air Force Band.

CHIEF MASTER SERGEANT STEPHEN C.R. STEPHENS,
SUPERINTENDENT

Chief Master Sergeant Stephen Stephens is a native of Parkersburg, W.Va. He has been a member of The United States Air Force Ceremonial Brass since 1965. Originally a trombonist with the band, he became assistant drum major in 1968 and was appointed drum major in 1977. He assumed the role of superintendent of the Ceremonial Brass in 1987. Chief Stephens has performed with The Air Force Band before Presidents Johnson, Nixon, Ford, Carter, Reagan, and Bush. For over twenty-six years he has led ceremonies honoring virtually every leader of every country in the world. As the Air Force’s premier drum major, Chief Stephens is highly regarded for his precision and flair by peers all over the world. For the past several years he has conducted drum major workshops throughout the United States and Europe on a regular basis. Chief Stephens is also the senior non-commissioned officer in the Air Force band career field.

PERSONNEL

Officer-In-Charge/Conductor: Captain Robert A. Pouliot
Woonsocket, RI

Superintendent: Chief Master Sergeant Stephen C.R. Stephens
Parkersburg, WV

Chief of Operations: Chief Master Sergeant Alan W. Sine
Johnsonburg, PA

Trumpet

SMSgt Gregory Trone
Hanover, PA

MSgt James Mulert+#
Mason City, IA

MSgt John Pursell
Erwinna, PA

MSgt Robert Cheal
Birmingham, MI

MSgt Jari Villanueva
Baltimore, MD

TSgt Robert Connolly
Scottsdale, AZ

TSgt Anthony Kirkland#
Douglas, GA

TSgt Curt Christensen
Mt. Clemens, MI

French Horn

TSgt Anthony Efinger+#
Santa Claus, IN

TSgt Laurie Mulert
Pottsdam, NY

TSgt Kimberly Reese
Camp Hill, PA

AIC Cheryl Mundo**
Allentown, PA

**Member, The Air Force Band of Liberty

Trombone

SMSgt Richard Witmer+

New Holland, PA

MSgt Bruce Bevans#

Framingham, MA

MSgt Charles Leadbetter

Temple Hills, MD

TSgt Susan Chumley

Leesburg, VA

TSgt Todd Hansen

Scottsdale, AZ

Euphonium

MSgt Dale Cheal+

Birmingham, MI

TSgt Don Naumann

Syracuse, NY

TSgt Ann Baldwin*

Canton, OH

Tuba

CMSgt Alan Sine

Johnsonburg, PA

MSgt Bruce Mosier+#

Indianapolis, IN

TSgt Gilbert Corella

Eagle Lake, TX

Percussion

MSgt Mark Carson+

East Fultonham, OH

TSgt Sheila Klotz

Brandywine, MD

TSgt Edward Teleky

Yorktown Heights, NY

TSgt Glenn Decker

Croton-On-Hudson, NY

+Section Leader

#Ceremonial Brass Quintet

*Member, The United States Air Force Concert Band

CREDITS

Lieutenant Colonel Alan L. Bonner	Commander
Captain Mark R. Peterson	Vice Commander/Co-Producer
Captain Robert A. Pouliot	Conductor/Co-Producer
Chief Master Sergeant Stephen C.R. Stephens	Co-Producer
Senior Master Sergeant Chris A. Matten	Recording Production/Digital Editing
Senior Master Sergeant Ronald A. Larson	
Mr. Bruce Leek	Engineers
Master Sergeant Phyllis M.K. Williams	Director of Public Relations
Technical Sergeant William E. Marr	Typesetting
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For information about The United States Air Force Band and its components, contact Director of Public Relations, The United States Air Force Band, Bolling Air Force Base, Washington, D.C. 20332-6458.

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We would like to thank Airman First Class Cheryl Mundo for her participation in this recording. A1C Mundo is a member of The Air Force Band of Liberty, Hanscom AFB, Mass., Captain Courtney A. Pohl, Commander.

We would also like to express our gratitude to Captain Steven Grimo, currently Commander of The Air Training Command Band, Lackland AFB, Texas, for the original concept of this recording.

Master tapes were recorded at the Center for the Arts, George Mason University, Fairfax, Virginia in January 1992.

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TOWER MUSIC

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Captain Robert A. Pouliot, *Conductor*

SELECTIONS

I. FANFARES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

- [1] **The United States Air Force Band Fanfare**
Malcolm Arnold (3:01)
- [2] **Sonata No. 12** Johann Christoph Pezel (3:41)
Trans. Ronald C. Dishinger
- [3] **Tower Music** Karol Rathaus (4:48)
The Ceremonial Brass Quintet
- [4] **Fairfield Fanfare**
MSgt Jari Villanueva* (1:59)

II. EUROPEAN BRASS

- [5] **Canzon duodecimi toni**
Giovanni Gabrieli (4:01)
Ed. Robert King
- [6] **Funeral March** Edvard Grieg (7:54)
Rescored by Geoffrey Emerson

III. THE BRITISH BRASS BAND

- [7] **March from "A Moorside Suite"**
Gustav Holst (4:14)
- Little Suite for Brass** Malcolm Arnold (6:37)
- [8] I. Prelude (1:47)
- [9] II. Siciliano (3:52)
- [10] III. Rondo (1:47)

IV. AMERICANA

- [11] **Presto Barbaro** Leonard Bernstein (4:27)
Trans. Frank Erickson
- Chrome Templates** Mel Broiles (16:54)
- [12] I. Moderato Expressivo (5:41)
- [13] II. Andante (6:51)
- [14] III. Rondo Caprice (4:11)

Two American Hymns

- [15] **Nearer My God to Thee** Lowell Mason (2:28)
*Arr. TSgt Paul Rawlins**
- [16] **Amazing Grace** Traditional American
Melody (2:43)
*Arr. MSgt Jari Villanueva**
- *****
- [17] **Honor with Dignity**
MSgt Jari Villanueva* (2:42)

- [18] **Battle Hymn** Traditional American
Melody (4:57)
*Arr. Sammy Nestico***
*Trans. MSgt Jari Villanueva**
- [19] **Rolling Thunder** Henry Fillmore (1:55)

Total Time (74:43)

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*Member, The United States Air Force Band

**Former member, The United States Air Force Band