

Contra Costa Wind Symphony

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www.CCWindSymphony.org/Media.htm**

April 18 Concert in Walnut Creek

Wind Symphony Will Premiere New Composition Commemorating Centennial of 1906 S.F. Earthquake

In a concert on the same date - April 18 - as the great earthquake and fire in San Francisco 100 years ago, the Contra Costa Wind Symphony celebrates its 25th season with the premiere of a composition it commissioned to commemorate the centennial of the disaster.

Under the baton of maestro Duane Carroll, the concert, also featuring piano-organ virtuoso Keenan Boswell, will begin at 8 p.m. in the Dean Leshner Regional Center for the Arts, 1601 Civic Drive, Walnut Creek. Tickets - \$18 general admission, \$15 for seniors and \$12 for students - are on sale at the ticket office (925) 943-7469 (www.dlrca.org). Information is also available at (925) 944-5392, www.CCWindSymphony.org.

Commentary will be provided by James Dalessandro, a San Francisco-based screenwriter and author of "1906: A Novel," a new book based on the earthquake.

For the finale, Carroll will lead the symphony and the audience in a sing-a-long of "San Francisco," the title song of the classic MGM movie starring Clark Gable and Jeanette MacDonald, which dramatized the 1906 earthquake and fire.

"Symphony No. 1: New Day Rising" was composed especially for the concert by Steven Reineke, who will conduct the work. He also composed "Mt. Diablo: A Symphonic Portrait" that was premiered by the wind symphony five years ago.

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Reineke, an arranger for the Cincinnati Pops, said his “dramatic and powerful” work includes the sounds of ragtime, trolley cars and “a city bustling with life and commerce” prior to the great temblor. The composition is in four movements: City of Gold, Nocturne, And the Earth Trembled, and New Day Rising, which Reineke describes as a “glorious and majestic finale.”

The concert marks one of the last local appearances by Boswell, 18, who will graduate from Las Lomas High School in Walnut Creek in June and head for college to continue his education. He will play “Wings,” a soaring piano concerto with a Rachmaninoff touch by Belgian composer Piet Swerts.

Boswell has appeared previously with the wind symphony and has performed on piano and organ nationally and internationally, including the Vatican last year.

The commission is sponsored in part by QuakeHold!, a manufacturer of earthquake safety products, and the Diablo Regional Arts Association.

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