

PROGRAM

The Progression of Wind (dancing ashes) (1980)
Sigmund Snopek III

Jon Stoll, viola
Sigmund Snopek III, electronics

Two Songs from "Eros Reminisced" (1980) Yehuda Yannay

Lee Dougherty, soprano and piano

Flute-Fiercen (1974) Jerome Kitzke

Marie Sander, flute

January Music (1980) Steven Nelson-Raney

Ellsworth Snyder, piano and tape

PROGRAM NOTES

Native Milwaukeean SIGMUND SNOPEK III has been involved with rock bands since he was fourteen. In the early 1970's he began to study composition with John Downey. Snopek has had major works performed around the country. Two pieces, "Orange-Blue" and "The Talking Symphony", were performed by the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra. He has composed scores for plays by Theatre X and has written and performed music for approximately 30 primarily documentary films. He has released six albums of his rock music. The last two records on the Mountain Railroad label are distributed worldwide. Currently he is involved in leading and performing with his four piece rock band, "Snopek", which will be touring the east coast; in working as a session musician and arranger; and in composing contemporary music. His latest works are "The Progression of Wind" and "Roy Rogers Meets Albert Einstein". The latter is a work commissioned by Pavel Burda's percussion ensemble and is to be performed at Milwaukee's Metropole Theatre on December 18, 1980. Snopek is just completing work on his string quartet, "Silver Wire and the Miniature Fugue" which he has dedicated to his friend and teacher, John Downey. He has also composed two "musico-opera" works. The first, "Return of the Spirit", was funded by the Milwaukee Bicentennial-Commission, the State Bicentennial Commission, and UW-Milwaukee. The other, "One Room Life", was funded by private investors. He hopes to have his rock ballet, "Ride in the Dark", performed soon. Part of this ballet can be heard on his latest album, "First Band on the Moon" (Mountain Railroad Records).

"The Progression of Wind" (dancing ashes) is a through-composed, free wheeling composition juxtaposing electronics with viola. It has an alternating, terse rhythmic feel and uses semi-free form improvising. The end of the piece includes a short poem by the composer as well as a music box quote from "Swan Lake". There is no intention to relate any of these events other than to make music.

YEHUDA YANNAY is Associate Professor of Music Theory and Composition at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. His most recent composition is "Il Campione Di Leopardi" for mixed choir and glass harmonica, commissioned by the 1980 Festival Musica Nova in Santos,