

Cascadia Composers

present

Tomas Svoboda

*in a performance of over fifty years
of his compositions for piano.*

*The composer-pianist will
introduce his compositions.*

- P r o g r a m -

A Bird, Op. 1 (1949)

Prelude in g-minor, Op. 3 (1951)

Fugue in f-minor, Op. 10 (1955)

African Dance, Op. 18 (1956)

Antient Monastery, Op. 24 (1957)

Bagatelles "In a Forest," Op. 42 (1964-1965)

Trails

Aspens

Rocks

Holy Cross

Forest and Meadows

- I N T E R M I S S I O N -

Autumn, Op. 110 (1982-1983)

Early Autumn

Autumn

Late Autumn

*Selections from Children's Treasure Box, Vol. 5,
Op.199a (2009-2010)*

Single Voice

Chaconne

Fanfare

Bavarian Canon

Major-Minor

Syncopation

Golden Harp

Bells in Octaves

Abandoned Garden

Wheel of Fortune

*The performance will conclude with
a question and answer period.*

Biography

Tomas Svoboda was born in Paris of Czech parents in 1939 spending the years during World War II in Boston, where he began his musical education with the piano at the age of three. After his family's return to Prague in 1946, he continued his musical studies, entering the Prague Conservatory in 1954 as its youngest student. Unable to take formal composition classes during his first years at the conservatory, Svoboda nevertheless composed his 36 minute **SYMPHONY No. 1 (of Nature)**, Op. 20, at the age of 16. This work was premiered shortly thereafter by the prestigious FOK Prague Symphony Orchestra; Vaclav Smetacek, conductor. By 1962, after graduating from the Prague Conservatory with degrees in percussion, composition and conducting, numerous performances and radio broadcasts of his music brought national recognition, clearly establishing him as Czechoslovakia's most important young composer.

In 1964, his family emigrated to the United States, where Svoboda enrolled at the University of Southern California in 1966 as a graduate student. In 1981, the first publication of his music brought forth a front cover tribute to Tomas Svoboda by the highly respected PIANO QUARTERLY. By 1985 Svoboda was given the ASCAP FOUNDATION/MEET THE COMPOSER AWARD and was commissioned to write his **CHORALE in E flat, for Piano Quintet**, Op. 118 for Aaron Copland's 85th birthday celebration in New York. In 1987, national music educators surveyed by THE PIANO QUARTERLY, voted Svoboda's **CHILDREN'S TREASURE BOX** piano series to be among the 40 most important composer collections of the 20th century for teaching piano.

In the summer of 1999, Svoboda's most well known orchestral work Overture of the Season, Op. 89 received a national radio broadcast with the San Francisco Symphony, conducted by the renowned Czech conductor, Libor Pesek. Important performances over the past few years include Svoboda's **Marimba Concerto** with the national orchestras of Costa Rica and Guatemala, with SONY Japan recording artist Nanae Mimura, soloist. In December 2003, Svoboda's **Marimba Concerto** was named in a **Grammy Award** nomination in the category of "*Best Instrumental Soloist With Orchestra*"; Niel DePonte, marimba; James DePreist, conductor; Oregon Symphony; [Albany Records]. To date, 21 CDs have been released with 43 works by Svoboda on them.

Today, over 1,300 known performances of his music have taken place throughout the world, including 450 symphonic performances, with such major orchestras as the Boston, Philadelphia, Cleveland, San Francisco, Monte-Carlo, Prague, Nagoya and national symphonies of Guatemala and Costa Rica.

Tomas is a founding board member of Cascadia Composers and has generously donated the proceeds from this concert to Cascadia's 2011 Spring Concert, the first of two organizational fundraising events this year. The next fundraising concert will be at Sherman-Clay Moe's Piano, 3pm, Saturday, February 26th and feature the music of Cascadia Composer members.

Cascadia is a member of the National Association of Composers, USA (NACUSA).

Photo credit: Windmill near Hradec nad Moravici, The Czech Republic, 2009, by Dan Senn.

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present

TOMAS SVOBODA

IN A PERFORMANCE OF HIS PIANO MUSIC

A Bird, Op. 1 (1949), Prelude in g-minor, Op. 3 (1951), Fugue in f-minor, Op. 10 (1955), African Dance, Op. 42 (1964-1965), Autumn, Op. 110 (1982-1983) and selections from Children's Treasure Box, Vol. 5, Op.199a (2009-2010).

Saturday, 3pm
January 8th, 2011
Sherman-Clay Moe's Piano
131 NW 13th Avenue, Portland