



Colonel Jason K. Fettig, Director

UNITED STATES MARINE BAND
Wednesday, August 29, 2018 at 8:00 P.M.
U.S. Capitol, West Terrace
Thursday, August 30, 2018 at 8:00 P.M.
U.S. Capitol, West Terrace
Colonel Jason K. Fettig, conducting

Andreas Makris (1930–2005)
transcribed by Albert Bader

Aegean Festival Overture

Eugène Bozza (1905–91)
transcribed by Howard Bowlin*

En Forêt

MSgt Hilary Harding, horn soloist

Captain Ryan J. Nowlin*

Godspeed, John Glenn (2018)

Leonard Bernstein (1918–90)
lyrics by Betty Comden and Adolph Green
arranged by SSgt Scott Nimmer*

Selections from *Wonderful Town*

Ohio

One Hundred Easy Ways To Lose A Man

Wrong Note Rag

A Little Bit In Love

GySgt Sara Sheffield, mezzo-soprano

Jean Sibelius (1865–1957)
transcribed by Frank Winterbottom

Finlandia, Opus 26

Louis Saverino* (1915–2003)

March of the Women Marines

GySgt Sara Sheffield, concert moderator

*Member, U.S. Marine Band

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PROGRAM NOTES

Aegean Festival Overture

Andreas Makris (1930–2005)
transcribed by Albert Bader

Olive oil and salt. As strange as it may sound, without these two ingredients Greek-American composer Andreas Makris might never have discovered the instrument that gave him a profession. Born on March 7, 1930, in Salonika, Greece, Andreas Makris grew up during the difficult years of World War II. He had begun to study piano as a young boy, but the war intervened. Money was scarce, and many food staples were rationed. One day a desperate man showed up on the doorstep of the Makris household, offering to trade his prized violin for the family's monthly ration of olive oil and salt. Makris's father made the trade and, according to the composer, "for a month, we had our bean soup without olive oil, and I began to play the violin."

Makris apparently learned his new instrument well, for he graduated from the National Conservatory of Greece with honors and was awarded a Rockefeller Grant in 1950 to continue his musical studies at Phillips University in Enid, Kansas. He attended the Kansas City Conservatory from 1951 to 1953 and graduated from the Mannes School of Music in New York City in 1956. Composition training followed at the Fontainebleau School in France, where Makris studied with Nadia Boulanger. In 1958 Makris won his first professional violin position in the Dallas Symphony in Texas, and moved on to the St. Louis Symphony in 1959. In 1961 he was invited to join the first violin section of the National Symphony Orchestra (NSO) in Washington, D.C., where he remained for twenty-eight years.

Makris was active as a composer throughout his time as a NSO violinist, and it was that orchestra that performed his works with the greatest frequency, first under the baton of Howard Mitchell, and then Antal Dorati, Mstislav Rostropovich, and Leonard Slatkin. Rostropovich, one of Makris's strongest champions, once lauded him as a "great composer." Makris also screened unsolicited scores for Rostropovich, sifting through new scores in order to identify works with the greatest promise. Makris received several grants and awards for his compositional efforts, including a National Endowment of the Arts grant, an American Society of Composers, Authors, and Publishers (ASCAP) award, and a Martha Baird Rockefeller Fund for Music Award.

Aegean Festival Overture was originally scored for orchestra in 1967, and was premièred by the NSO under the direction of Howard Mitchell. The immediate success of the work caught the attention of Major Albert Bader of the United States Air Force Band, who undertook the transcription in collaboration with the composer. The work has been a staple in the band repertoire ever since, and like Shostakovich's *Festive Overture*, is best known in its version for concert band. Although Makris did not use any actual folk tunes, the melodies and rhythms throughout *Aegean Festival Overture* are unmistakably Greek in origin.

En Forêt

Eugène Bozza (1905–91)
transcribed by Howard Bowlin*

Eugène Bozza was born in Nice, France, in 1905. While studying music at the Paris Conservatory, he won First Prize in violin, conducting, and composition. In 1934 he won the Grand Prix de Rome, a famous contest for composers. Bozza is mostly known for his compositions for winds in solo and chamber music settings. *En Forêt (A Forest)* was composed for horn and piano as a test piece for graduate horn students at the Paris Conservatory. This piece is well known for its technical difficulty. It makes use of the horn's entire range and incorporates extended techniques such as trills, glissandi, stopped horn, and muted passages. By employing direct quotations of St. Hubert's hunting call, it brings to mind the hunting tradition of the French horn.

MSgt Hilary Harding, horn soloist

French horn player Master Sergeant Hilary Harding joined "The President's Own" United States Marine Band in May 2003 and was appointed assistant principal horn in October 2012 and principal in May 2018. Master Sgt. Harding began her musical training at age eleven. Upon graduating in 1996 from Caldwell County High School in Princeton, Kentucky, she attended the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign where in 2000 she earned a bachelor's degree in

music. In 2002, she earned a master's degree in music from the Peabody Institute of The Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, and in 2007 she earned a doctorate of musical arts at the University of Maryland, College Park. Her horn instructors included Martin Hackleman of the National Symphony Orchestra in Washington, D.C., Peter Landgren of the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra, and Kazimierz Machala, formerly of the Sydney Symphony in Sydney, Australia.

Godspeed, John Glenn (2018) Captain Ryan J. Nowlin*

Captain Ryan J. Nowlin was born and raised in Cleveland, Ohio, and attended Bowling Green State University for both his bachelor and master of music degrees. He has been an active educator, conductor, and composer/arranger during his professional career. He joined "The President's Own" Marine Band in 2010 as staff arranger and was appointed as Assistant Director in 2014.

Nowlin's original composition *Godspeed, John Glenn* pays tribute to an American hero and fellow Ohioan, Colonel John Glenn. Glenn served his country in many capacities: as a Marine fighter pilot in World War II and Korea, through the NASA program where he was the first American to orbit the Earth, and by serving as a United States senator for twenty-four years. Through all of these professional accomplishments, Glenn's family and his wife, Annie, remained his focus. Annie Castor was an accomplished musician, and Glenn was on his way to attend her organ recital when he heard of the attack on Pearl Harbor, ultimately leading him to join the Marine Corps and beginning his outstanding life of service. At the recital, Castor performed music from Jean Sibelius's *Finlandia*. The imbedded hymn "Be Still My Soul" made a profound impression on Glenn as he thought about the sacrifices he was about to make. *Godspeed, John Glenn*, uses the hymn "Be Still My Soul" to act as the primary melodic material through various treatments and climaxes in a quote of the hymn.

"The President's Own" United States Marine Band had the honor of participating in Glenn's full honors funeral at Arlington Cemetery on April 6, 2017. Taps was sounded in echo to honor this American hero, and *Godspeed, John Glenn* is a lasting acknowledgement of Glenn's life of service and commitment to his country.

Selections from *Wonderful Town*

Leonard Bernstein (1918–90)

lyrics by Betty Comden and Adolph Green
arranged by SSgt Scott Nimmer*

Leonard Bernstein is considered the first internationally-known musician to be entirely the product of American schooling. After studies at Harvard University in Cambridge, Massachusetts, and the Curtis Institute in Philadelphia, he became the assistant conductor of the New York Philharmonic in 1957, and, two years later, assumed the duties of music director. Bernstein was also a prolific and dynamic composer who wrote music for orchestra, chorus, musical theater, movies, and television. His infusion of jazz and international styles into "classical" compositions paralleled the cultural evolution of the country during the mid-twentieth century.

Bernstein wrote many dramatic works. His five scores for Broadway include *Wonderful Town* from 1953. *Wonderful Town* showcased Hollywood star Rosalind Russell and was based on the popular play *My Sister Eileen*. The story takes place in the 1930s and centers on two sisters who move from Columbus, Ohio, to New York City to seek success as a writer and an actress. Bernstein wrote the musical score, creating comedic and character-driven songs that parody the music of the 1930s Depression Era. The music includes references to jazz and popular music of the era and furthers the action and character development of the musical. This medley, arranged by SSgt Scott Nimmer, includes the song "Ohio" which captures the sisters' worries over their decision to move to New York City, the comic "One Hundred Easy Ways to Lose a Man," "Wrong Note Rag" with its intentionally dissonant harmonies, and ends with the sentimental "A Little Bit in Love." *Wonderful Town* won five Tony Awards, including Best Musical. Bernstein's lively and inventive musical score surely contributed to the success of this Broadway musical.

GySgt Sara Sheffield, mezzo-soprano

Mezzo-soprano vocalist and concert moderator Gunnery Sergeant Sara Sheffield joined "The President's Own" United States Marine Band in May 2005, becoming the first featured female vocal soloist in Marine Band history. Gunnery Sgt. Sheffield began her musical instruction on piano at age nine and voice at age sixteen. After graduating from

Jacksonville (Texas) High School in 1997, she attended the University of North Texas in Denton and earned a bachelor's degree in vocal performance in 2001. In 2008 she was named a regional finalist in the Mid-Atlantic Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions. She earned an executive master's degree in business administration from George Mason University in 2016 in Fairfax, Virginia. Prior to joining "The President's Own," Gunnery Sgt. Sheffield was a member of the U.S. Army Band's Army Chorale at Fort Myer in Arlington, Virginia.

Finlandia, Opus 26

Jean Sibelius (1865–1957)

transcribed by Frank Winterbottom

While Jean Sibelius was a young man, his native Finland struggled for independence from Russia. In 1899, with press censorship at its peak, a group of Helsinki artists organized a series of celebrations in support of those journalists who wrote about the oppressiveness of Russian rule. There was to be a stage pageant presenting scenes from Finnish history. As the country's foremost composer, Sibelius was the obvious choice to compose the incidental music. He wrote a prelude and six pieces, one for each scene in the pageant. The final scene was a short segment titled *Finlandia*.

Probably Sibelius's most widely known work, *Finlandia* gives the impression that it is constructed from folk songs taken from the rich folk music culture of Finland. This belief became so widespread that Sibelius was forced to make a public declaration to dispel the erroneous conclusion. "There is a general impression abroad that my themes are often folk melodies. So far I have never used a theme that was not my own creation. Thus, the thematic material of *Finlandia* is entirely my own."

March of the Women Marines

Louis Saverino* (1915–2003)

Louis Saverino was a talented instrumentalist and composer who also enjoyed a distinguished twenty-five-year career as a member of "The President's Own." Born in 1915 in Windber, Pennsylvania, he was taught musical notation as a toddler by his father, which led to a lifelong ability to visualize and notate any music he heard. After winning a four-year scholarship to the Eastman School of Music at the University of Rochester in New York, Saverino flourished musically and obtained the school's first tuba performance degree in 1938. A year later, he joined the Marine Band, performing primarily on tuba, string bass, and bass clarinet.

Much admired by his colleagues for his amazing and versatile instrumental skills, Saverino was also held in high regard by Marine Band Director William F. Santelmann for his composition and music-scoring abilities. After the establishment of the U.S. Marine Corps Women's Reserve in 1943, a last-minute request for a parade march prompted Saverino to conceive and complete the march in one night. The march was so well-received that it was designated as the official March of the Women Marines, and Saverino's efforts were rewarded with a letter of commendation from Marine Headquarters.