4-8-1966

Contemporary music symposium scheduled at University of Montana

University of Montana--Missoula. Office of University Relations

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The University of Montana School of Fine Arts will present its fourth annual Symposium of Contemporary Music at 8:15 p.m. Friday, Saturday and Sunday (April 15, 16 and 17) in the Recital Hall, Dean Charles W. Bolen announced.

Each symposium since the first one in 1963 has stirred wider interest in the school's program for developing the potential of young composers, according to the dean. The symposium is a showcase for the talents of students of Eugene Weigel who, as head of the composition department, serves as adviser to the campus composers, Dean Bolen said.

The opening program Friday features original compositions, or arrangements of works by other composers, by Jerry Mader and Douglas Smuin, both of Missoula, and Tom Kenney, Helena. The music will be performed by the Contemporary Music Ensemble, comprised of Alan Caldwell, Missoula, and Kenney, saxophones; John Wilson, Great Falls, trumpet; Herb Johnson, Billings, trombone; Julius Preite, Havre, drums, and Smuin, bass.

The Saturday program presents new music by Arthur Griesel of Shawnee Mission, Kan., a graduate student and the assistant conductor of the University Symphonette. Faculty members participating are Vernon Overmyer, pianist; Laurence Perry, organist and a trio made up of Florence Reynolds, cellist; Eugene Andrie, violinist, and Rudolph Wendt, pianist.

Students performing Saturday are Douglas Manning, baritone, Kalispell, and instrumentalists James Peterson, Douglas Herbig and Lora Tannenholz, all of Missoula; (more)
Fred Inman, Billings; John German, Oilmont, and Mader, Wilson and Griesel.

The symposium will end with the Saturday evening program of music by the contemporary composer Anton Webern. The Kantate I, Op. 29, will be performed by the University Choir and Symphonette, conducted by Joseph A. Mussulman, with Janet Kenney, Missoula, as soprano soloist. A group of pieces for violin and piano will be played by Andrie and Wendt. The String Quartet, Op. 28, will be done by the Montana String Quartet, consisting of Andrie and Gerald Doty, violins; Miss Reynolds, cello, and Weigel, Viola. Commentaries on portions of the program will be given by Griesel and Mader.

A student art exhibit will be on display in the lobby of the Music building in conjunction with the symposium, Dean Bolen said.

The entire symposium is open to the public without charge, he added.