

"Rainbow Rising," work commissioned by the La Jolla/University Symphony for Mandeville opening will be performed March 15

March 6, 1975

"Rainbow Rising," a work commissioned by the La Jolla Civic/University Symphony for the opening of the Mandeville Center for the Arts, will be one of four works performed by the Symphony Saturday, March 15, at the University of California, San Diego.

The Symphony will perform Music for Larger Ensembles beginning at 9:00 p.m. in the Mandeville Auditorium. The program will be preceded at 8:30 p.m. by an address by Nancy Ranks, Chairman of the National Endowment for the Arts. Miss Hanks, who will spend two days on the UCSD campus, is serving as keynote speaker for the 11-day festival of music, art and drama presented in honor of the opening of the Center.

Tickets for the lecture and concert are \$4/\$5 for the general public and \$2/\$3 for UCSD faculty, staff and students. They are available through the UCSD box office in the Student Center and at any Theatre's Music Store.

In addition to "Rainbow Rising," written by Robert Erickson, UCSD Professor of Music, the Symphony will also perform "Dana le Sable," by Dr. Loren Ruah, co-director of the Center for Computer Research in Music and Acoustics at Stanford-University. Two other works for smaller-groups will also be performed. They are the world premiere performance of "Concerto for Flutes and Chamber Orchestra" by Dr. Joseph Julian, lecturer in the UCSD Department of Music, and "Tombeau de Cocteau" by Dr. Will Ogdon, UCSD Professor of Music.

According to Erickson, the inspiration for his new work came "late one afternoon in 1973 (when) we saw a double rainbow to the east, very close; so close that one end went to the ground only a few hundred yards from our front window." As he watched, the colors seemed to melt into their bordering colors yet when he looked at the rainbow as a whole the color scheme seemed to be fixed.

"Flocks of gulls were returning to the ocean after a day inland and, as they flew past to the east of the rainbow, their white bodies changed color according to the sequence of the rainbow's hues," Erickson said. He said that while his composition is not about rainbows or gulls or anything pictorial, it does owe something to this experience.

Erickson is an author, a lecturer and an inventor of unique musical instruments as well as a composer. Before coming to UCSD he was a member of the music faculty at Northern Illinois University. He has appeared as featured clarinet soloist with a number of symphonies including those in San Diego, Oakland and St. Louis.

Julian was the first graduate student to receive a doctorate in music from UCSD. Specializing in chamber works and electronic music, his compositions have been well received by audiences in both Europe and the United States.

"The exploration of new ensemble instrumental timbres is my primary compositional concern," Julian said. "An essential characteristic of 'Concerto for Flutes and Chamber Orchestra' is that the flutes and orchestra are not in a solo-accompaniment relationship, but compete on equal terms.

"Dans le Sable" (in the sand), written by Rush during the winter of 1967, is the second part of the trilogy "The Day We Almost Made It on the Beach." The work was premiered in San Francisco in 1968 and was heard in a new orchestral version in 1970 in a performance by the Rome Symphony Orchestra. It is the new version that will be performed at UCSD.

Rush began the study of piano at the age of six and gradually extended his studies to include bassoon, contrabass, percussion and koto. He studied composition with Robert Erickson and attended San Francisco State University, UC Berkeley and Stanford University where he received a doctoral degree.

He has been awarded a number of fellowships and prizes including the University of California's Prix de Paris, and the Rome Prize of the American Academy in Rome. He is currently working on his second commission from the San Francisco Symphony, a part of the "Seven Orchestras Bicentennial Commissioning Project" funded by the National Endowment for the Arts.

Ogdon joined the UCSD faculty in 1966 after serving as coordinator of music communications at the University of Illinois. He received a Ph.D. from the University of Wisconsin in 1955 and has also attended UC Berkeley, Indiana University and l'Ecole Normale de Paris where he studied as a Fulbright fellow.

Ogdon is a charter member of the Anton Webern Society and a member of the Board of Directors of the San Diego Opera, the Board of Directors of the La Jolla Civic/University Symphony and the Music Executives of California.

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