

Vincent Persichetti (1915-1987)

"Music of Grit and Grace"

1915 - born in Philadelphia, PA

1920 - began study of piano, later organ, double bass and tuba

1926 - performed as an accompanist for local radio station

1928 - audited Russell King Miller's afternoon theory class at Combs College

1931 - appointed organist and choir director of Arch Street Presbyterian Church (a post he held for 20 years)

1935 - received Mus. B. degree from Combs College and simultaneously becomes the head of the theory and composition departments there

1935 -1940 - studied as a piano major and composition major at the Philadelphia Conservatory as well as conducting at the Curtis Institute (with Fritz Reiner). Received a Master's and Doctor's degree from the Philadelphia Conservatory

1945 - Fables for Narrator and Orchestra performed by Eugene Ormandy and the Philadelphia Orchestra

1947 - joins faculty of the Juilliard School of Music; Third Symphony premiered by Eugene Ormandy and the Philadelphia Orchestra

1949 - King Lear premiered by the Martha Graham Dance Company

1954 - co-authored a biography of William Schuman

1955 - Hymns and Responses for the Church Year

**1961 - Twentieth Century Harmony: Creative Aspects and Practices
(the "bible" of 20th century harmony; publ. by W.W. Norton)**

1963 - assumes chair of the composition department at Juilliard

1965 - first in a series of 25 Parables for various instrumental solos or combinations

1965-87 - continues active schedule of teaching, composing (many keyboard works and "Parables") and guest conducting and lecturing

August, 1987 - dies at his home in Philadelphia

Chronological listing of

Vincent Persichetti's Band Works

1929 - Serenade No. 1 for Ten Wind Instruments

(first performance April 21, 1952 by the New York Wind Ensemble, San Angelo College, Texas)

1950 - Divertimento for Band

(premiere June 16, 1950; Goldman Band)

1952 - Psalm for Band

(May 2, 1952; University of Louisville)

1953 - Pageant for Band

(March 7, 1953; University of Miami)

1956 - Symphony No. 6

(April 16, 1956; Washington University, St. Louis)

1960 - Serenade No. 11

(April 19, 1961; Ithaca High School)

1961 - Bagatelles for Band

(May 21, 1961; Dartmouth College)

1965 - Masquerade for Band

(January 23, 1966; Baldwin-Wallace Conservatory)

1966 - Celebrations for Chorus and Wind Ensemble

(November 18, 1966; University of Wisconsin-River Falls)

1966 - Chorale Prelude: Turn Not Thy Face

(May 17, 1966; Ithaca High School)

1971 - O Cool is the Valley

(February 5, 1972; Bowling Green University)

1972 - Parable IX for Band

(April 6, 1973; Drake University)

1973 - A Lincoln Address

(February 1, 1974; Arkansas Tech)

1984 - Chorale Prelude: O God Unseen

(November 4, 1984; East Carolina University)