

State and Local

Orchestra delights audience at A&M with classic selections

By Tom Reinarts

Music Reviewer

The Rotterdam Philharmonic Orchestra, directed by American James Conlon, performed Tuesday evening in Rudder Auditorium for a large and appreciative audience. The show was sponsored by the MSC OPAS committee.

This is the fifth time the Dutch orchestra has toured the United States.

The orchestra has 26 albums to its credit that cover a wide variety of classical pieces. In the past the group has performed in every major center in the United States and Europe, playing in the Soviet Union in 1986.

The current tour already has included an appearance at Carnegie Hall and will continue on to several stops in Japan and one in Seoul, Korea.

There are a total of 107 musicians representing 17 nationalities.

Conlon has been chief conductor and music director since 1983, and will continue to be director through the 1990-91 season. Conlon has appeared with several major orchestras, including the Berlin and London symphonies and the major orchestras in several large cities of the United States.

He led the orchestra through three pieces, including "Three Frescoes of Piero della Francesca" by Bohuslav Martinu, "Concerto No. 2 in G major for Piano and Orchestra" by Peter Tchaikovsky and "Symphonic Dances" by Sergei Rachmaninoff.

The best piece of the evening was the Tchaikovsky number that included piano accompaniment by Bella Davidovich.



James Conlon conducts the Rotterdam Philharmonic orchestra in Rudder Auditorium Tuesday.

Photo by Jay Janner

Davidovich gained considerable recognition while performing for the Leningrad Philharmonic for 28 seasons, and has been more accessible to western audiences since her recent emigration to the U.S.

Davidovich has received favorable reviews wherever she has played, and she has played in several European and U.S. cities.

Her energetic style complimented the piece well. Her solos

were exciting, and when playing with the rest of the orchestra she blended in nicely. The audience was impressed enough to give her a standing ovation and she was also given a bouquet of flowers by a representative of the Corps of Cadets.

"Three Frescoes of Piero della Francesca" was a varying number that incorporated several different styles and showed off the versatility of the orchestra.

"Symphonic Dances" by Rachmaninoff, the final piece, started off slow and soft and moved through three movements to a loud, booming ending.

After the concert the audience applauded for several minutes as Conlon took four bows. The performance was exhilarating and entertaining, and most in the audience, judging by response, seemed to enjoy themselves.

U.S. Naval officer calls technology superior to that of Soviet Union

By Drew Leder
Staff Writer

A Houston-based Naval officer, Senior Chief L.D. Holleman, told students in the Marine Technology Society Tuesday at Rudder Tower that U.S. Naval technology is superior to that of the Soviet Union.

"The Soviet Union has quantity, we have quality," he said. "If we took 'em on today I have no doubt that we would come out victorious. We have better technology and we have better people."

Holleman, who said he hunts submarines as a profession, presented a slide show to about 25 people that featured U.S. and Soviet naval ships, submarines and aircraft.

He said most of Soviet naval ships have technology that was imitated from their U.S. counterparts.

"It's a monkey-see, monkey-do type affair," he said. "They see us do something, they study it for a while and try it out; they lose a few lives and then perfect it, and we go on."

Although the United States has superior technology, the Soviets are developing their naval capabilities at a rapid rate, Holleman said. He said Soviet submarines pose the most dangerous threat to U.S. ships.

"Their submarine threat is their most devastating weapon," he said. "Their (submarine launched) torpedoes aren't too far behind ours."

The main difference between the two navies is that the Soviets center around a plan of attack, while the United States mostly maintains deterrent forces, Holleman said.

"We believe in defense; they believe in offense," he said. "They are looking at a first strike capability; we are mostly designed to counter threats."

Another difference between the navies, Holleman said, is that Soviet enlisted men, or conscripts, aren't given the responsibility that their

U.S. counterparts are. He said the Soviet navy is distrustful and allows its conscripts to do only menial tasks. All major operations of a ship are carried out by officers, who are required to be Communist Party members, he said.

This lack of responsibility and trust makes for an atmosphere of discontent among Soviet sailors, Holleman said.

Holleman referred to the U.S. Navy as a melting pot and said it gives much more responsibility to enlisted men.

"Each one (U.S. sailor) is given responsibility until he can't handle it anymore," he said. Holleman said that because of distrust among the Soviet military and strict party rules, each Soviet ship has a political officer on board, who gives lessons on Communism and sometimes outranks the captain in decision-making authority.

While such a rigid management system may cause Soviet sailors to fear their leaders, Holleman said the greatest fear a Soviet naval man has is of a U.S. aircraft carrier. He said U.S. carriers have the power to approach overactive Soviet naval vessels and convey a message of "calm down, bud."

The United States has about 16 carriers, five of which are nuclear powered, compared to the Soviets' four, Holleman said. Each U.S. carrier holds about 100 jets, he said.

To decrease the carrier gap, the Soviet Union is building a new class of carrier, or Kiev, that is scheduled to be completed in 1990. Holleman said the carrier will be the pride and joy of the Soviet navy, but is based on a model that the U.S. already has in operation. The carrier will employ a catapult to launch jets, as do U.S. carriers, whereas now jets must take off vertically from Soviet carriers, he said.

MSC Town Hall Presents

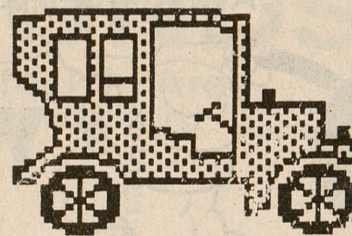


R.E.M. WORK TOUR



With Special Guest The dB's
 Thursday, November 19th, 8 p.m.
 G. Rollie White Coliseum
 Tickets \$10 - available at 10 a.m.
 Monday, October 19th, at
 MSC Box Office (845-1234) or at Dillard's.

BRYAN DRIVE TRAIN, INC



GENERAL AUTO REPAIR

- TRANSMISSION • CLUTCH
- DRIVE SHAFT • DIFFERENTIAL
- FRONT WHEEL DRIVE • 4 WHEEL DRIVE SPECIALISTS

INTERSTATE BATTERY DEALER
 FOREIGN & DOMESTIC
 FREE ESTIMATES

OPEN - MON-FRI 7:30-5:00 - SAT 8:00-12:00

268-2886

3605 C COLLEGE AV
 ACROSS FROM CHICKEN OIL CO.

ATTENTION UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS

In September 1987, an article was published in the Battalion stating the new policy for ordering a senior ring. There has been one change made as follows: The 95 hour requirement will not go into effect until January 29, 1988, 5:00 p.m.

A new procedure for mid-semester orders this fall has been implemented by the Association of Former Students Ring Office. An undergraduate student that has 30 hours completed in residence prior to this semester and will complete a minimum of 92 hours by the end of this semester may do the following:

1. Come by the Ring Office, Clayton W. Williams, Jr. Alumni Center, beginning October 14 and no later than November 18 to sign up for a preliminary eligibility check. (At least 3 days in advance of making the application for an order and paying).
2. Return anytime between October 26 and November 25 only and make the application for a ring. (The full payment is due when the application is made).
3. At the end of this semester when final grades are posted, your transcript will be checked for eligibility. If you meet all the requirements, your order will be processed and sent to the manufacturer.

- The requirements for qualifying this semester are:
1. Have a minimum of 30 hours completed in residence prior to the fall '87 semester.
 2. Have a minimum of 92 hours completed and on record by the end of the fall '87 semester, when final grades are posted.
 3. Have a minimum of a 2.0 cumulative grade point average at A&M by the end of the fall '87 semester.
 4. Not be on probation after final grades are posted for the fall '87 semester.
 5. Be in good standing with the University. (This includes not being on probation, suspension, dismissal, expulsion, blocked from registration or receiving a transcript, or owing any outstanding bills to the University).

If you are currently attending another school and need the course(s) to meet the 92 hour requirement, it is your responsibility to see that an official transcript is either taken or sent to Transfer Admissions, Heaton Hall. The hours must be evaluated and transferred onto your A&M record prior to January 29, 1988. There will be an order taken between January 15-29, 1988 for those students requiring transfer hours from the fall '87 semester to qualify. (Mid-semester applications are not taken on transfer hours in progress). If the transfer hours are not posted to your A&M transcript by January 29, 1988, your order will not be taken until you have 95 hours on record, since this requirement goes into effect after 5:00 p.m., January 29, 1988.

Any student having the qualifications before this semester, must come by the Ring Office for the eligibility check at least 3 days in advance of placing the order. November 25 is the last day for ordering a ring this year.

Please call 845-1050 for further information or if you have any questions. Office hours are from 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m., Monday-Friday.