TUBA CONCERTO

Donald Grantham

Featuring
Charles Villarrubia, Tuba
The University of Texas Wind Ensemble
Robert Carnochan, Conductor
My Tuba Concerto – for Tuba Solo, Orchestral Winds, Percussion and Piano – is in three movements. The first movement, marked “Fiery and bold,” is a virtuosic workout featuring much interplay between the soloist and percussion, particularly the timpani. The second movement is lyric and expressive. Formally, it is a kind of continuous development: New material is added to older material without ever really replacing it, and all of the elements combine and interact throughout the entire movement. The third movement is in a much more popular and jazzy vein, and is dedicated to the memory of Tiny Parham, a jazz musician who flourished in Chicago in the 1920s and 1930s and a composer whose music and scoring I particularly admire. 

David Grantham. May 2014
UT WIND ENSEMBLE
Robert M. Carnochan, conductor
Charles Villarrubia, tuba

PERSONNEL

FLUTE
Catherine Baker
Marley Eder
Nicole Routhier*

OBOE
Rebecca McGuire
Winona van Alstyne*

ENGLISH HORN
Emily Moscoso

BASSOON
Nicole Haywood
Shih-Min Tang*
Toan Tran

E-FLAT CLARINET
Nick Councilor

CLARINET
Shih-Wen Fan*
Kai-Ju Ho
Graeme Johnson
Joseph Mora
Dasom Nam
Tim Skinner

BASS CLARINET
Elyssa Korban

HORN
Reese Farnell
Andrew Fraser
Jeffrey Kennedy*
Felipe Vera

TRUMPET
Jared Broussard
Joseph Cooper*
Brian Taylor

TROMBONE
Alexander Cruz*
Patrick Stauffer

BASS TROMBONE
Jeriad Wood

EUPHONIUM
Jayson Niner

TUBA
Corey Rom

PERCUSSION
Tristan Boyd
Alex Casimiro
Tim Feerst
Nigel Fernandez
Keith Hendricks
David Saad
Zach Singer

* PRINCIPAL

TUBA CONCERTO
Donald Grantham

I. Fiery and Bold
II. Languid and Expressive
III. Boisterous!
Tiny Parham in memoriam
CHARLES VILLARRUBIA serves as Associate Professor in tuba and chamber music at The University of Texas at Austin's Butler School of Music. Mr. Villarrubia is a native of New Orleans, Louisiana and received his degrees in music performance from Louisiana State University and Boston University. He has been a member of the Waterloo Festival Orchestra and the Tanglewood Music Center Orchestra. In addition to his duties at The University of Texas, Mr. Villarrubia also serves on the faculty of the Brevard Music Center where he holds the position of principal tuba with the Brevard Music Center Orchestra. His primary teachers include Joe Hebert, Neal Tidwell, Larry B. Campbell, Arnold Jacobs, and Sam Pilafian.

Mr. Villarrubia toured internationally for five years with the Dallas Brass and is a founding member (1993) of Rhythm & Brass. His performances with Rhythm & Brass include extensive domestic tours and several trips to Japan, the Middle East, Canada, Thailand and the US Virgin Islands as well as being featured at the International Trumpet Guild Conference in Sydney, Australia in 2010. The group has also performed as guest soloists with numerous symphony orchestras including those in Rochester, Grand Rapids, Phoenix, Colorado Springs, Oregon, Tucson, and the United States Air Force Orchestra in Washington, D.C. Rhythm & Brass, described by Entertainment Weekly as “...deliciously off-centered” and by the American Record Guide as “...nothing short of stunning,” has produced six recordings representing a wide variety of musical styles. More Money Jungle... Ellington Explorations (Koch Jazz), was named by the New York Times as “Album of the Week” in May of 1999. Sitting in an English
Garden has Rhythm & Brass venturing into the music of the Beatles, Led Zeppelin, and Pink Floyd. Their latest recording, Inside the Blue Suitcase, features original compositions by the members of R&B. All R&B recordings are available on iTunes and other online services.

Mr. Villarrubia has performed in concert and presented clinics and master classes at hundreds of colleges, universities, and conservatories across the country, as well as at the New York Brass Conference, the Rafael Mendez Brass Institute, Bands of America, the Brevard Music Center, the Great American Brass Band Festival, MENC national and regional conventions, and the Music Educators Associations of Georgia, Oklahoma, Montana, Minnesota, Florida, Iowa, Texas, and New York.

In 1984 he was awarded first prize in the T.U.B.A. orchestral competition, becoming the first individual to win that award. While in Boston, Mr. Villarrubia frequently performed with the Boston Symphony Orchestra and the Boston Pops Orchestras and has recorded with the latter of those ensembles.

A staunch advocate of student involvement in chamber music, Mr. Villarrubia has authored a chamber music method book called Team Play With Rhythm & Brass – a guide to making chamber music. The book gives the student and educator a blueprint on how to start and maintain a successful chamber ensemble. He has also written articles on the subject and been a guest lecturer at the Mid-West Band and Orchestra Clinic and the Music Educators National Convention. Charles has premiered no fewer than five new works for the tuba, several of which he commissioned.

In the spring of 2011 Mr. Villarrubia and Dr. Robert Carnochan, Associate Director of Bands at The University of Texas at Austin, commissioned Donald Grantham to compose a new work for solo tuba and orchestral winds. This resulted in a major new addition to the repertoire, the Concerto for Solo Tuba, Orchestral Winds, Percussion and Piano. Mr. Villarrubia premiered the Concerto with Dr. Carnochan conducting The University of Texas Wind Symphony on March 27, 2012 in Bates Recital Hall on the campus of The University of Texas at Austin. Subsequent performances of the Concerto included one at the College Band Directors National Association Southwestern Division Conference on the campus of the University of Texas San Antonio on March 30, 2012.

Mr. Villarrubia has appeared on four continents as a guest clinician and performer for the Yamaha Corporation and has recorded on the Telarc, Angel EMI, d’note, and Koch labels. With his wife, flutist Marianne Gedigian, he started his own publishing company, Azadmusic that publishes their transcriptions as well as distributes their solo CD’s. Previous to his appointment at the Butler School of Music, Mr. Villarrubia served on the faculties at Boston University, The Boston Conservatory, New England Conservatory, and the Longy School of Music.
Composer DONALD GRANTHAM is the recipient of numerous awards and prizes in composition, including the Prix Lili Boulanger, the Nissim/ASCAP Orchestral Composition Prize, First Prize in the Concordia Chamber Symphony’s Awards to American Composers, a Guggenheim Fellowship, three grants from the National Endowment for the Arts, three First Prizes in the NBA/William Revelli Competition, two First Prizes in the ABA/Ostwald Competition, and First Prize in the National Opera Association’s Biennial Composition Competition. His music has been praised for its “elegance, sensitivity, lucidity of thought, clarity of expression and fine lyricism” in a Citation awarded by the American Academy and Institute of Arts and Letters. In recent years his works have been performed by the orchestras of Cleveland, Dallas, Atlanta and the American Composers Orchestra among many others, and he has fulfilled commissions in media from solo instruments to opera. His music is published by Piquant Press (www.piquantpress.com), Peer-Southern, E. C. Schirmer and Mark Foster, and a number of his works have been commercially recorded on the Klavier, Gasparo, Centaur and Summit labels. The composer resides in Austin, Texas and is Professor of Composition at the University of Texas at Austin. With Kent Kennan he is coauthor of THE TECHNIQUE OF ORCHESTRATION (Prentice-Hall).
DR. ROBERT CARNOCHAN serves on the conducting faculty at The University of Texas at Austin. His responsibilities include conducting the UT Wind Symphony, overseeing all aspects of the Longhorn Band, and teaching undergraduate and graduate conducting. Prior to his appointment at UT, he served as Associate Director of Bands at the University of Colorado at Boulder, Director of Bands at Northeastern Oklahoma State University, and Associate Director of Bands at Stephen F. Austin State University in Nacogdoches, Texas. Dr. Carnochan began his teaching career as Director of Bands at Dundalk High School in Baltimore, Maryland.

Dr. Carnochan has collaborated with and received praise from a number of composers including Steven Bryant, John Corigliano, Michael Daugherty, Donald Grantham, John Mackey, David Maslanka, Carter Pann, Joel Puckett, Gunther Schuller, Frank Ticheli, and Dan Welcher. He is active as a guest conductor, clinician, and adjudicator throughout the United States, and has conducted concerts in London, Spain, Austria, Luxembourg, Switzerland and Singapore. He has served as producer for several acclaimed recordings by both the The University of Texas Wind Ensemble and the Dallas Wind Symphony.

Honors include induction into The American Bandmasters Association, the Alpha Chapter of Phi Beta Mu International
Honorary Bandmasters Fraternity, and the recipient of the UT College of Fine Arts Walter and Gina Ducloux Fellowship, the UT DADs Association Centennial Professorship and The Eyes of Texas Excellence Award for Service to the University. He maintains memberships in the College Band Directors National Association, the Texas Music Educators Association, and the Texas Bandmasters Association.

Dr. Carnochan holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Music Education from Towson University, a Master of Music degree in Wind Conducting from The University of Colorado at Boulder, and a Doctor of Musical Arts degree in Wind Conducting from The University of Texas at Austin. His primary conducting teachers have been Jerry Junkin, Allan McMurray, and Dana Rothlisberger.