

## The clarinet section of The Toronto Symphony

(The assistance of Helen Scott, Assistant Director of Public Relations of The Toronto Symphony, is gratefully acknowledged. Ed.)

**Joaquin Valdepeñas**, born in Mexico in 1955, began his studies at California State University at Fullerton with Kalman Bloch, Principal Clarinet with the Los Angeles Philharmonic, and continued at Yale University School of Music, studying clarinet with Keith Wilson and conducting with Otto Werner Mueller. Before graduating in 1980 with a Master's degree in music, he was conductor of the Yale Contemporary Ensemble under the guidance of Arthur Weisberg.

In 1980, he joined The Toronto Symphony as Principal Clarinet. In the spring of 1982, he made his recital debut, accompanied by Maestro Andrew Davis and his solo debut performing Mozart's *Clarinet Concerto*.

Joaquin Valdepeñas is heard extensively on radio and television across Canada and the United States and was featured on a PBS television documentary about the Aspen Music Festival, highlighted as a conductor and clarinetist. The program has been broadcast several times throughout North America.

In May 1983, he appeared as soloist with The Toronto Symphony under guest conductor Václav Neumann and in the Great Performers Series of The Toronto Symphony at Roy Thomson Hall with flutist Jeane Baxtresser and Andrew Davis at the piano.

His 1983-84 season solo engagements included his European debut with the BBC Welsh Symphony, broadcast on BBC television, a concert with the Minneapolis Artists Ensemble performing the Bartók *Contrasts* and Brahms *Quintet*, and another appearance with The Toronto Symphony under guest conductor Václav Neumann, playing the Nielsen *Clarinet Concerto*.

The clarinetist makes his home in Toronto and is currently teaching at the Faculty of Music, University of Toronto. He plays Buffet clarinets, a Pyne mouthpiece with Mitchell Lurie reeds and a Johnston with Olivieri reeds, and a Bonade ligature.

**Raymond Luedeke**, Associate Principal and E-flat clarinet, studied clarinet at the Eastman School of Music with Stanley Hasty. He continued his studies with Rudolph Jettel at the Vienna Academy of Music and with George Silfies, principal clarinet of the St. Louis Symphony.

Mr. Luedeke is also a composer, holding a doctorate in composition from Northwestern University. This last February The Toronto Symphony performed his *Shadow Music*, a work which the orchestra commissioned. His numerous prizes and awards include First Prize from the Percussive Arts Society for *Fancies and Interludes IV* for bass clarinet and percussion (1), music soon to be published by Music for Percussion, Inc. *15 Inventions* for two clarinets is available from Seesaw Music.

He plays Buffet clarinets, Olivieri reeds, a James Pyne B-flat mouthpiece and a Chedeville-Bay E-flat mouthpiece, both with Bonade inverted ligatures.

**John Fetherston**, Second clarinetist, was born in London, Ontario and studied violin with his father (a member of The Toronto Symphony for 31 years) for ten years — then later became involved with the clarinet, working on it for two or three years with Bob Rogers (then first clarinet with The Toronto Symphony). After three years in World War II as a



Pictured left to right: Joaquin Valdepeñas, John Fetherston, Raymond Luedeke and David Bourque.

bomber pilot, he got back to the clarinet and studied with Herb Pye (a former first clarinet of The Toronto Symphony).

After playing radio shows, TV operas, operas, miscellaneous concerts in the late forties and early fifties, he joined The Toronto Symphony in 1956 as Principal clarinet and now serves as second.

He uses Buffet clarinets, a ligature with no name visible, and 5RV Lyre and Hite mouthpieces.

**David Bourque**, bass clarinet, was born in Toronto, Ontario, in 1955. His musical training: Faculty of Music, University of Toronto, Bachelor of Music, Music Education (1977), Artist Diploma (1979); principal teachers include Ronald Chandler, J. Wes Foster, Stanley McCartney, James Campbell, and Robert Crowley.

His previous positions: Bass/3rd clarinet National Ballet of Canada Orchestra 1977-present; Bass/3rd clarinet Canadian Opera 1977-present; bass/3rd clarinet, Hamilton Philharmonic 1977-80; bass clarinet, Janáček Festival, CBC Radio 1978; 1st clarinet Stratford Festival Orchestra 1978-present; Toronto New Music Concerts 1979-present; assisting artist, University of Toronto Faculty Artist Series 1980; basset horn and bass clarinet, assisting artist, Toronto Chamber Winds 1981; basset horn, Mainly Mozart Festival 1982; clarinet/bass clarinet, Stratford Summer Music 1982.

His recordings: basset horn I in Toronto Chamber Winds' recording of Mozart's *Serenade in B-flat, K. 361* on Kneptune label. Teaching privately; chamber music coach, University of Toronto's Faculty of Music, 1980 to present.

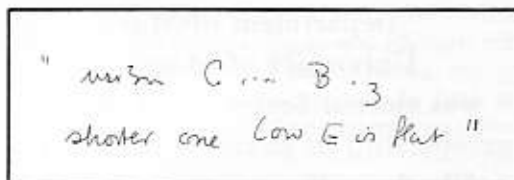
In January of 1984 Mr. Bourque performed Gary Kulesha's *Third Chamber Concerto* for solo bass clarinet and woodwind octet with the Toronto Chamber Winds. This is the third work Mr. Kulesha has written for Mr. Bourque since 1977. The other two works are entitled *Duo for Bass Clarinet & Piano* (1977) and *Mysterium Coniunctionis* for clarinet, bass clarinet and piano (1980). All works are available through the Canadian Music Centre in Toronto. He joined the orchestra for the 1983-84 season.

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About the cover: Traditional costume parade (each town's local dress costume), Manching, Bavaria (near Munich). Summer, 1981. Photo by Arthur Christmann.

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