NEWS RELEASE

NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

THIRTEENTH AMERICAN MUSIC FESTIVAL
AT THE NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART

Washington, April 20, 1956: David E. Finley, Director of the National Gallery of Art, announced today that the Gallery's Thirteenth American Music Festival will be presented on successive Sunday evenings from May 13th through June 10th. Five programs will be played, including orchestral, chamber, piano, and choral music.

The series is under the general direction of Richard Bales, who will conduct the orchestral programs.

A feature of the Festival will be the premiere of Mr. Bales’ Cantata, "The Union", based on music of the North during the years 1861-1865. Completed during March, "The Union" is the companion piece to his Cantata, "The Confederacy", composed in 1953.

These concerts will be given in the East Garden Court, beginning at 8:00 P.M.

There is no admission charge, and tickets and reservations are not required.

Station WGMS and the Good Music Network will broadcast these programs in their entirety.

Programs and participating artists follow.
THIRTEENTH AMERICAN MUSIC FESTIVAL
The A. W. Mellon Concerts

Sunday, May 13 - National Gallery Orchestra
Richard Bales, Conductor

Soloist
Hugh O'Meagher, Harpsichordist

John Frederik Peter
Quintet No.1 in D Major

Henry Cowell
*Ballad for Strings

Richard Bales
Theme and Variations

William Grant Still
*Danzas da Panama

Benjamin Carr
Three Solos for Harpsichord

Hugh O'Meagher
**Concerto for Harpsichord, Percussion, and Orchestra

Sunday, May 20 - The American University Quartet
with
Evelyn Swarthout, Pianist

Wayne Barlow
*Piano Quintet

Boris Koutzen
*String Quartet No.2

Vittorio Giannini
*Piano Quintet
National Gallery of Art

Sunday, May 27 - Margaret Tolson, Pianist

Alexander Reinagle  Minuet in A Major
Alexander Reinagle  Gavotte in A Major
John Palma  Lesson
(Found in a manuscript book owned by Francis Hopkinson. Mr. Palma lived in Philadelphia in the middle of the 18th century. It was in his rooms that the first advertised concert in Philadelphia was held, January 25th, 1757. Two ticket stubs were found in the personal effects of George Washington for a concert at Mr. Palma's)

Louis Gottschalk  The Water Sprite (Polka de Salon)
Walter Piston  Passacaglia
Jean Berger  *Sonatina
Vincent Persichetti  *Fifth Piano Sonata, Opus 37
Halsey Stevens  *Sonata No.3
Roy Harris  Toccata
Ernst Bacon  *Sombrero
George Antheil  *Toccata No.2

Sunday, June 3 - National Gallery Orchestra
Richard Bales, Conductor

(Music Performance Trust Fund Concert sponsored by Local 161, American Federation of Musicians, James C. Petrillo, President.)

Edward MacDowell  "Indian Suite" in E Minor, Opus 43
Charles Ives  Symphony No.2
Sunday, June 10 - National Gallery Orchestra
Richard Bales, Conductor

Peggy Zabawa, Soprano
Jule Zabawa, Baritone
Jan Michael, Speaker
Church of the Reformation Cantata Choir

Walter Spencer Huffman Symphony No. 7

Richard Bales "The Union", A Cantata on Music of the North during the years 1861-1865

** World premiere
* First Washington performance

These programs are subject to change.