

**Oral Memoirs
of
Lyman Brodie**

An Interview Produced by

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Orlando Philharmonic Orchestra

Orlando Philharmonic Orchestra

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Interview Histories

Interviewee: Lyman Brodie

Transcriber: Genesis Rawls

The recordings and transcripts of the interview were processed in the offices of the RICHES of Central Florida Department, University of Central Florida, Orlando, Florida.

Project Detail

In celebration of the Orlando Philharmonic Orchestra's 20th Anniversary season, this video series chronicles the orchestra's two decades of history in Central Florida. This video was produced by Joe Gennaro, Timothy G. Brown and Lisa Mills with the guidance of Stella Sung and Emily Lindahl.

The Orlando Philharmonic Orchestra, located at 812 East Rollins Street Suite 300 in Orlando, was inspired by the closing of the Florida Symphony in 1993. The orchestra performs in more than 125 concerts each season. In June of 2013, the Philharmonic made plans to purchase the Plaza Live, located at 425 North Bumby Avenue in downtown Orlando, for office space, a rehearsal hall, a music library, and a music hall.

Legal Status

Scholarly use of the recording and transcript of the interview with Lyman Brodie is unrestricted. The interview agreement was signed in 2012.

Abstract

Episode in the Orlando Philharmonic Orchestra's 20th Anniversary video series, chronicling the orchestra's history in Central Florida. This episode features an interview with Lyman Brodie, Principal Trumpet and board member. Topics in the video include an anecdote about outdoor concert, the earliest days of the OPO, educational programs, venues, performing with John Williams and other experiences with the orchestra, music played by the Philharmonic, and the role of orchestra members as community members.

In addition to the Orlando Philharmonic Orchestra, Lyman A. Brodie performs for the Dallas Wind Symphony and the Black Music Repertory Ensemble. He also is the Associate Dean of the College of Arts and Humanities and a Professor of Music at the University of Central Florida (UCF). Previous positions that Brodie has held at UCF include Chair of the Department of Music and President of the University Wide Counsel of Chairs and Chairmen of the Campus Review for the Strategic Planning Initiative. Additionally, Brodie has served as a national grant review panelist for the National Endowment for the Arts Music Program, an elected board member of Chamber Music Directors of the Orlando Philharmonic and, an Advisory Board member of the Arts Presenters, and a voting member of the National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences.

Lyman Brodie

Oral History Memoir

0:00:00

Introduction

0:00:13

Trumpeter Lyman Brodie performing

0:00:46

Anecdote about outdoor concert

Brodie

We were doing a – an outdoor concert – a park concert. And I honestly can't remember exactly where it was, but the interesting thing about it was it started raining. I mean, downpour. And, uh, instead of us stopping the program, uh – I remember Andy Lane¹ was conducting the concert and he invited the audience to come under the tent [*laughs*]. And so we had the entire audience that was out there. Instead of being in the rain, they were under the tent with the orchestra. And we continue playing the concert [*laughs*].'

0:01:25

Earliest days of the OPO

Brodie

The, um – the early days, of course, um, were pretty tough, uh, because we didn't have a home. Um, we did concerts in various venues around the city.

0:01:40

Educational programs and venues

Brodie

Um, we, um, started of course by doing programs to – of educational quality. Both for young people's concerts, and for the opera, and for the ballet. And, um – and we started by doing those kinds of service-related kinds of things and then programs that were, uh, basically, um fee-based. So we weren't doing subscription programs as such at the very beginning. And, um, as we grew, we start doing more those kinds of things, but the venues changed quite a bit for the first three years. I think it was not until the third or fourth year that we actually were able to mount a program in the performing arts center – Bob Carr [Performing Arts Centre].

0:02:28

Performing with John Williams and other experiences with the orchestra

Brodie

Performing with John Williams for the opening of the Harry Potter theme park, you know, was a real thrill. There have been many, many, many great experiences performing with the Orlando Philharmonic.

0:02:53

Music played by the Philharmonic

¹ Andrew Lane.

Brodie

The, uh – the same music that we look at in Orlando is the same music that the performers look at a New York [City, New York] in Chicago[, Illinois], and Dallas[, Texas], and Los Angeles[, California], in Berlin[, Germany], and Vienna[, Austria].

Um, when we perform [Gustav] Mahler, or [Johann] Strauss, or [Sergei] Prokofiev, or [Dmitri] Shostakovich, those are the same parts everyone are performing all over the world. The members of the orchestra are members of the community. Um, we've been able to, fortunate enough to told a number of additions and – and bring in some really, really good performers, so we're really fortunate for that. And all of those people have become part on the community as well.

0:01:45

Closing credits

End of Interview