

CHARLOTTE SYMPHONY ON CAMPUS

About the films

Three films accompany music in *Changing Places*, *Changing Tunes*. Each has been created by George Cochran, Executive Producer and Director; Chris Pittman, Editor; Andrew McGary, Camera; and members of the "Art of Production" Film and Video Program at Central Piedmont Community College.

The first film accompanies the performance of the *Largo* movement of Dvorák's Symphony No. 9, "From the New World." As is demonstrated by the Levine Museum exhibit *Changing Places: From Black and White to Technicolor*, the Charlotte region is home to a diverse and growing community. This film celebrates that diversity, presenting the faces of nearly 100 Charlotte-area residents. Throughout the film (and, indeed, all three films), images of water – which covers 70% of the Earth's surface and makes up nearly 60% of the human body – is present as a unifying element.

The second film, set to the "Summertime" section of Gershwin's "*Porgy and Bess: A Symphonic Picture*," presents paintings by 20th-century African American artist Loïs Mailou Jones, the subject of an exhibition at The Mint Museum of Art. Jones "changed places" multiple times in her life, moving from Boston to North Carolina, to Paris and Haiti and Africa. *Loïs Mailou Jones: A Life in Vibrant Color* features more than 70 works from the artist's estate. Images are courtesy of The Mint Museum – www.mintmuseum.org.

The final film accompanies Gershwin's "It Ain't Necessarily So" and presents images of the composer and the original production of *Porgy and Bess*, which opened on Broadway on October 10, 1935. Reviews of the production were mixed: Was it opera? Was it musical theatre? There was no doubt, however, that it was original, a true product, one reviewer wrote, of "the great melting pot of America." Images are courtesy of the Ira and Leonore Gershwin Trusts.

Filmmaker **George Cochran** is currently President and CEO of **Cochran Enterprises** and teaches in the Department of Art, Photography, and Videography at Central Piedmont Community College, having founded the film/video program there. He is a member of the Directors Guild of America and is the recipient of numerous industry awards, including the Clío and ADDY awards.

The **Ira and Leonore Gershwin Trusts** manage the copyright interests of the lyricist Ira Gershwin. Beyond that day-to-day function, the Trusts – created by Ira's widow, Leonore Strunsky Gershwin – maintain an archive of materials related to the Gershwin brothers and make it available to qualified researchers. Eventually this material will join the Gershwin Collection in the Music Division at the Library of Congress. The substantial funds that have been forwarded to the Library by the Trusts comprise one of the largest donations ever made to our nation's library.