Marge conducts as Concert Band gives lively finale to winter tour in Kresge

MIT CONCERT BAND
Winter Tour Finale Concert
Kresge Auditorium, February 22

By JODE SHIPMAN

The MIT concert band began Saturday night’s concert with Carmen Rarible, by the Spanish composer Pedro Sanz. The piece, a very loud and exciting composition inspired by African and Cuban ritual songs, was successfully conducted by Edward Altmann Friedland, an old student of Corley’s. Next came Medieval Suite, by Ron Nelson. This pays homage to three great masters of the Middle Ages, and draws on some of the stylistic features of music from that period, such as Gregorian chants. The band had played this piece in a Lobby 7 concert last fall, and it was interesting to compare the two performances, because the acoustics of Lobby 7 and Kresge are so different. Although the overall sound was better in Kresge, there were some striking resonance effects in the Lobby 7 version. In Lobby 7, you felt as if you were in the middle of a solid column of sound. Charles Marge G conducted, and the piece was lovely.

Corley took the baton for the next selection, John Barvick’s Concerto for Clarinet and Wind Ensemble. This work was written specifically for guest soloist Sherman Friedland, an old student of Corley’s. The Concerto premiered last month in Florida during the MIT Concert Band’s tour. It is a difficult, non-melodic piece, sounding and nicely played.

Symphonic Songs for Band. A pleasant composition, it was unfortunately unmemorable.

I enjoyed this concert, and hope to hear the MIT Concert Band again soon.