

JULY 19—MUSICAL ADVENTURE ON THE FRINGE

ORCHESTRA NOSTALGICO

Friday, July 19, 2009, 7 PM

Vina Robles Hospitality Center, Paso Robles

NINO ROTA'S (1911-1979) main claim to fame was the scores he created for nearly all of Fellini's films, starting with *The White Sheik* and continuing all the way up to *Orchestra Rehearsal*. He also wrote more conventional scores for two of Zeffirelli's Shakespeare adaptations, including *Romeo and Juliet*, the first two installments of Coppola's *Godfather* trilogy, and about 150 other films. He wrote a few pieces for orchestra, chamber groups, choruses and solo piano.

But it is the work he did for Fellini that inspired Orchestra Nostalgico when they first assembled. His unique synthesis of classical forms, '60s pop, louche lounge cocktail jazz, Italian folk music, unexpected key and meter changes, and Fellini's beloved circus sounds served the group equally well transcribed straight or used as springboards for interpretive arrangements. Tonight's performance draws heavily from the scores for *8-1/2*, *La Dolce Vita*, *Amarcord*, and *Nights of Cabiria*, with a little *Casanova* and *Juliet of the Spirits* tossed in.

ENNIO MORRICONE (1928-) is a bit more prolific, clocking in at over 500 film scores at last count. A mere sampling: *Once Upon A Time in America*, *Cinema Paradiso*, John Carpenter's *The Thing*, *The Mission* (which at one point held the record for best-selling soundtrack of all time), and *Days of Heaven*. Morricone also was a key player in the Italian avant-garde music scene in the '60s and '70s, and was a member of the influential Gruppo di Improvvisazione Nuova Consonanza. Orchestra Nostalgico has selected the spaghetti western *Once Upon a Time in the West* for its Morricone from Morricone's vast catalog.

JOHN BARRY (1933-) began his music career as a jazz arranger and leader of the John Barry Seven combo, but soon graduated into film scoring through vehicles for early English beat performers like Adam Faith. His big breakthrough was with the scores for the early James Bond films, and this led to a career filled with hit soundtracks, including *Born Free*, *Midnight Cowboy* and *Dances with Wolves*. Orchestra Nostalgico pays tribute to his early success with a medley of themes from the Bond series.

BERNARD HERMANN (1911-1975) is as closely associated with Alfred Hitchcock's films as Rota is with Fellini's, but he, too, did much work for other directors, including Orson Welles (*Citizen Kane*) and Martin Scorsese (*Taxi Driver*). Still, Herrmann's signature theme for the shower scene in Hitchcock's *Psycho* may be one of the most famous riffs in filmdom.