

# Historian says death inspired Dorothy of 'Oz'

BLOOMINGTON, Ill. (AP) — The brave farm girl who was carried to Oz by a Kansas tornado may have been born in the heartbreaking death of an infant in Illinois.

Five-month-old Dorothy Gage died in 1898 as her uncle was writing "The Wonderful Wizard of Oz." The tragedy inspired L. Frank Baum to name his heroine Dorothy Gale and make her the ideal girl his family imagined the real Dorothy could have become, historian Sally Roesch Wagner believes.

"If someone dies in your family, the immediate use of that name is done in a very careful and respectful way," Wagner said.

Wagner has known about the real Dorothy for years, ever since the girl's sister mentioned her during a discussion of family history.

But it was only during a recent trip to Illinois that Wagner was able to find Dorothy's timeworn tombstone in the north-central Illinois city of Bloomington.

Records at Evergreen Cemetery led Wagner to a tiny gray stone, its letters reduced to illegible grooves. The director of the McLean County Historical Society, Greg Koos, suggested an old genealogy trick: spread shaving cream on the stone and then wipe away the excess to reveal the letters.

"I brought the squeegee down and there was 'Dorothy.' It took on life then," Wagner said. "She really was buried in Bloomington. There really was a Dorothy."

Dorothy was the niece of Baum's wife, Maud Gage Baum.

When the sickly child died, Maud Gage Baum traveled from Chicago to Bloomington for the funeral.

Baum dedicated "The Wonderful Wizard of Oz" to his wife when it was published in 1900.

"He gave Maud her Dorothy in an immortal way," said Wagner, who was in Illinois as a scholar-in-residence at Lincoln's New Salem state historical site.

# Musician hopes to show tuba's range

By Emily Wray  
Staff Reporter

For Craig Fuller, variety is the spice of life. That variety includes three tubas, six composers and several different types of music.

Fuller and another visiting associate professor of music, Nicole Narboni, will perform a concert tonight at Kimball Recital Hall.

The free concert features Craig Fuller on tuba and Nicole Narboni on piano.

For a successful recital, Fuller said, a partnership between performers is essential. He and Narboni have been working together for a couple of years.

Fuller teaches tuba majors two to three days a week, but primarily plays in the Omaha Symphony, he said.

In tonight's concert, which will start at 8, Fuller will play three sizes of tubas. The different tubas allow versatility in sounds and repertoire.

A small tuba, in the key of F, is halfway between a tuba and baritone, Fuller said. The middle and large tubas are both in the key of

"Even Bach wasn't originally written for piano."

CRAIG FULLER  
tuba player

C. Fuller uses the largest tuba for orchestration and the deep sound, he said.

Since the tuba was not invented until around 1850, it regularly borrows music from other instruments, Fuller said.

"If a new instrument came along, composers would recycle pieces," Fuller said. "Even Bach wasn't originally written for piano."

Tonight's program will present a variety of music, including part of a tuba concerto and songs originally composed for singing, Fuller said. Pieces for solo tuba and other instruments will also be represented. The instruments play different roles in different pieces, he said.

Fuller also plays a piece featur-

ing a solo tuba and three trombones.

Classical music from various eras will also appear in tonight's concert. This variety shows versatility and the range that a performer has, Fuller said.

Fuller wants his students to hear him as a model and to raise their own standards. He also said he saw the concert as a demonstration of what the tuba's job is in an orchestra.


Fuller said he hoped people would see the tuba as more than an "oompa" instrument after the recital.

"I think people will be pleasantly surprised at how well it gets around in the hands of a performer, someone who's dedicated their life to it," he said.



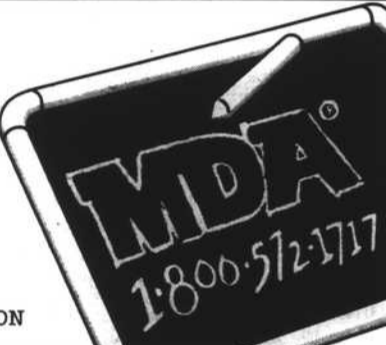
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