



Woodwind Quintet Program: Summer Music

Barber – Summer Music
Ewazen – Roaring Fork
Ravel – Le Tombeau de Couperin
Milhaud – La Cheminee du Roi Rene
Hindemith – Kleine Kammermusik
Arnold – Three Shanties
Taffanel – Quintette pour instruments a vent

This stylistically diverse program features a full range of 20th century music for woodwind quintet. Written at the turn of the century, woodwind champion Paul Taffanel's Quintet has become a masterwork in the repertoire. A creative mix of old and new, both Ravel and Milhaud's works evoke the style of early music with a modern French sensibility. Paul Hindemith's Kleine Kammermusik also reflects on earlier times, with a Stravinsky-esque neo-classical style. British composer Malcolm Arnold's Three Shanties is a hilarious romp complete with drunken sailer tunes.

In its ideal outdoor setting, Barber's Summer Music evokes images of a languid summer afternoon, in a tempo marked "slow and indolent." It describes various summer scenes in Knoxville, the city of the composer's birth, that weave into each other as seamlessly in the piece as in his memory. Also evocative of the outdoors, Ewazen's Roaring Fork depicts the incredible views the composer experienced on the hiking trails of Colorado. The music rushes through the rapids of the Colorado River, shimmers on the surface of Maroon Lake and is as breathtaking as the expansive views of Buckskin Pass.

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