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PREVIEW
NOTES

New York Wind Quintet
Sunday, April 3 • 3:00 PM — Independence Seaport Museum

Background

The New York Woodwind Quintet includes Carol Wincenc, flute; Stephen Taylor, oboe; Charles Neidich, clarinet; Marc Goldberg, bassoon; and William Purvis, horn. For almost 60 seasons, the Quintet has maintained an active performance schedule in the U.S. and abroad while also teaching the next generation of woodwind performers.

Program

Wind Quintet

Elliott Carter

Born: Dec. 11, 1908 in New York, NY

Composed: 1948

Last PCMS performance: Imani Winds in 2009

Duration: 8 minutes

Carter dedicated this work to his mentor Nadia Boulanger and tried to compose it in such a way that it would emerge as the kind of music that she would have wanted him to compose. It is an extremely sincere homage in which Carter surrenders his own aesthetic agendas in order to take the voice of another.

Partita

Irving Fine

Born: Dec. 3, 1914 in Boston, MA

Died: Aug. 23, 1962 in Boston, MA

Composed: 1948

Last PCMS performance: Phila. Orchestra Winds in 2008

Duration: 15 minutes

Irving Fine's Partita certainly shows the influence of Stravinsky's neo-classicism, from its antique title to its piquant harmonies and strong rhythms. But Fine had a lyricism all his own to offer, and the Partita, using an unusual structure, creates space for it to blossom.

Nine by Five

Elliott Carter

Composed: 2009

Last PCMS performance: Philadelphia Premiere

Duration: 8 minutes

Composed for the NY Winds, this compact work is rich in striking contrasts in both texture and breadth of range. Pointillistic sections, rich in interplay among the five instrumental lines, are interspersed among chordal writing or more conventional counterpoint. And from the opening to the final, soft-edged chord the score's energy never lets up.

Adagio and Allegro, K. 594

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

Born: Jan. 27, 1756 in Salzburg, Austria

Died: Dec. 5, 1791 in Vienna, Austria

Composed: 1790

Last PCMS performance: PCMS premiere

Duration: 11 minutes

Composed in the last year of his life, Mozart wrote this piece for mechanical organ or musical clock. Hornist William Purvis is responsible for the arrangement.

Quintet in C Minor, Op. 103

Ludwig van Beethoven

Born: Dec. 16, 1770 in Bonn, Germany

Died: Mar. 26, 1827 in Vienna, Austria

Composed: 1792-93

Last PCMS performance: PCMS premiere

Duration: 22 minutes

This work originated as a wind octet, but when it was not accepted for publication, Beethoven reworked it for string quintet. Mordecai Rechtman of the Israel Wind Quintet based this transcription on the string version, and it sounds so natural that it is as if the work had been entrusted to the strings only until such time that the winds had evolved the capabilities to earn it back again.