SUMMER FESTIVAL AT THE HUNTINGTON



GRAMMY® AWARD-WINNER

Southwest Chamber Music



PROGRAM BOOK • JULY 13-AUGUST 25, 2013



Grammy® Award-winner Southwest Chamber Music is an innovative and influential cultural force based in Los Angeles, providing concert, recording and educational programming that combines traditional European classics, contemporary work by diverse American composers, and modern music from Latin America and Asia. Led by founding artistic director and conductor Jeff von der Schmidt, Southwest's programming reflects the diversity of southern California in two festivals each season, the *Los Angeles International New Music Festival* and the *Summer Festival at The Huntington*. The organization also provides 10,000 student visits annually at schools throughout Los Angeles County through its *Project Muse* and *Mentorship Programs*. These programs engage students through multiple visits by musicians and composers, and have been cited as model programs in the field by the California Arts Council and the National Endowment for the Arts.



Founded in 1987, Southwest Chamber Music's recordings, commissions and premieres have brought the ensemble international recognition through two Grammy Awards, seven Grammy nominations, and international touring that has taken the ensemble to Europe, Mexico, and Asia, as well as Washington, D.C., Santa Fe, and New York. Highlights of past seasons include the U.S. State Department-sponsored 2010 Ascending Dragon Music Festival and Cultural Exchange, the largest cultural exchange in history between Vietnam and the United States. In 2009 and 2007 the ensemble performed at

UNAM in Mexico City and the Guadalajara FIL Festival. In 2006 the ensemble performed at Cambodia's Royal University of Fine Arts in Phnom Penh, the 2006 World Culture Expo at the temples of Angkor Wat, and the Hanoi Opera House. Southwest Chamber Music was the first American ensemble to perform at the Arnold Schoenberg Center in Vienna in 2003. Other projects have included *Cage 2012*, a multi-year centennial celebration of Los Angeles-born composer John Cage, and *Ten Freedom Summers*, a three-part cycle inspired by the civil rights movement, presented in 2011 at REDCAT in the Walt Disney Concert Hall. National and international co-commissioners include the Nieuw Ensemble in Amsterdam, the Tanglewood Music Center of the Boston Symphony, members of the New York Philharmonic, FONCA in Mexico, and the Vietnam National Academy of Music in Hanoi, Vietnam, among others.

The ensemble's 30 recordings are available from Cambria Master Recordings, with world-wide distribution by Naxos and available online at iTunes, CDBaby and Classicsonline. Southwest Chamber Music is represented by Gail Boyd Management in New York. For more information, visit www.swmusic.org



SOUTHWEST CHAMBER MUSIC PLAYERS



Alison Bjorkedal, harp
Jonathan Davis, oboe
Judith Farmer, bassoon
Jim Foschia, clarinet
Lorenz Gamma, violin
Helen Goode, clarinet
Ayana Haviv, soprano
Peter Jacobson, cello

Larry Kaplan, flute
Jon Lee Keenan tenor
Timothy Loo, cello
Luke Maurer, viola
Alyssa Park, violin
Andrew Pelletier, horn
Tom Peters, double bass
Ming Tsu, piano
Shalini Vijayan, violin



Jeff von der Schmidt Conductor and artistic director



Delaram Kamareh



Jon Lee Keenar



Ayana Haviv

The Summer Festival at The Huntington is generously sponsored by E. Randol and Pamela Schoenberg and the James Robeson Memorial, and Stephen Kanter Fund.

SOUTHWEST CHAMBER MUSIC SUMMER FESTIVAL AT THE HUNTINGTON

July 13 and 14, 2013

PROGRAM

Octet for Winds Igor Stravinsky
Sinfonia (1882-1971)

Tema con variazioni

Finale

Larry Kaplan, *flute*, Jim Foschia, *clarinet*, Judith Farmer & Dana Jackson, *bassoons*Tony Ellis & Daniel Rosenboom, *trumpets*, Alvin Veeh & Terry Cravens, *trombones*Jeff von der Schmidt, *conductor*

Hums & Songs of Winnie the Pooh, op. 6

Oliver Knussen

(b. 1952)

- I. Aphorisms
 - 1. Inscription
 - 2. Hum
 - 3. The Hundred Acre Wood (nocturne)
 Piglet meets Heffalump
 - 4. Hum, Continued, & Little Nonsense Song
 - 5. Hum (instrumental)
 - 6. Vocalise (climbing the tree)
 - 7. Codetta
- II. Bee Piece & Cadenza (the Fall of Pooh)
- III. Cloud Piece

Delaram Kamareh, soprano, Larry Kaplan, piccolo/flute, Jonathan Davis, English horn Gary Boyver, clarinet/contra-bass clarinet, David Johnson, percussion, Peter Jacobson, cello Jeff von der Schmidt, conductor

INTERMISSION

Serenade in B flat major, K. 361

Largo – allegro molto

Menuetto & Trios 1 & 2

Adagio

Menuetto & Trios 1 & 2

Romanze

Theme & Variations

Rondo allegro molto

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756-1791)

Jonathan Davis & Victoria Sabonjohn, *oboes*, Jim Foschia & Helen Goode, *clarinets*Gary Boyver & Peter Nevin, *basset horns*, Andrew Pelletier, Nathan Campbell, Joseph Ognibene & Paul Loredo, *French horns*, Judith Farmer & Dana Jackson, *bassoons*, Tom Peters, *double bass*Jeff von der Schmidt, *conductor*

Ocet BY IGOR STRAVINSKY



The Octet began with a dream, in which I saw myself in a small room surrounded by a small group of instrumentalists playing some attractive music. I did not recognize the music, though I strained to hear it,

and I could not recall any feature of it the next day, but I do remember my curiosity—in the dream—to know how many the musicians were. I remember, too, that after I had counted them to the number eight, I looked again and saw that they were playing bassoons, trombones, trumpets, a flute and a clarinet. I awoke from this little concert in a state of great delight and anticipation and the next morning began to compose the *Octet*, which I had had no thought of the day before, though for some time I had wanted to write an ensemble piece—not incidental music like the *Histoire du Soldat*, but an instrumental sonata.

Igor Stravinsky

Hums & Songs of Winnie the Pooh, op. 6 BY OLIVER KNUSSEN



An early version of this piece was written and performed in 1970. *Hums and Songs*, which lasts about thirteen minutes and contains much new material, was composed in spring of 1983 for the Aldeburgh Festival.

It isn't exactly a *setting* of the episode with tree, bees and balloon near the beginning of A.A. Milne's *Winnie-the-Pooh*—indeed, words are rarely discernible; neither is it a small-scale tone-poem, though there are many onomatopoeic devices. It is, rather, a sequence of faded snapshots and reflections, by an unwilling grown-up, on things remembered from the book, and on what those things meant to him as a child.

So the piece is whimsical: it hops back and forth between Pooh-like expressions and the inner world of a child just after the light is switched off, following no particular pattern—I allowed the music to take itself where it wanted to go. The two worlds meet in the last song during which, perhaps, the child falls asleep.

— O.K.

Serenade No. 10 in B Flat Major, K.361 "Gran Partita" BY WOLFGANG AMADEUS MOZART

Unlike his flamboyant 19th century predecessors, Mozart is rarely thought of in terms of brilliant orchestration. His instrumental choices can make our comparatively gargantuan symphony orchestra an obese product of a crude Industrial Revolution. A careful study of the pure sound of his music, its voicing, its timbres, its characterizations, can quickly bring one to the idea that he is best approached as one might Shakespeare. His music is a testament to the character of a given idea being ideally represented in sound. And, like Stratford's favorite son, Mozart takes all sides of imaginary abstract scenarios. His instruments are his characters, particularly in his chamber music, and they always exist in the world of an opera without words. This gives a unique individuality to his music, one that is aptly synchronous with the political chaos of the French Revolution that defines his era, and puts him miles apart from most of his contemporaries save Haydn. To consider Mozart without the backdrop of the cataclysmic social change roaring throughout Europe courtesy of Paris and Versailles is to minimize Mozart's power as the musical mover and shaker of an entire epoch. The three operas with Lorenzo da Ponte are touchstones of social change. Beethoven is indeed unthinkable without Mozart's music. The young composer from Bonn sadly had little time to study with the Salzburg native while both were in Vienna, but the impact was long and deep.

The *Gran Partita* is a summit of wind music and is a perfect piece for a celebratory concert opening our 20th anniversary of the *Summer Festival at The Huntington*. Begun in 1781, it was written shortly after the premiere of *Idomeneo*, most certainly for musicians in Munich who were also members of the famous Mannheim Orchestra. However, the first record of public performance is in Vienna in March or April 1784, and involved Mozart's great clarinetist friend Anton Stadler. The *Gran Partita* was performed as part of a benefit concert at Vienna's National Theater—one hopes that the donors were sufficiently impressed to leave behind large sums of money for a worthy cause. Mozart certainly did his best to pull out all the stops.

The scale of this particular serenade is immense, with an impressive assembly of wind instruments: two oboes, two clarinets, two basset horns (making their first appearance in a work of Mozart and functioning as tenor clarinets), four French horns (tuned in pairs with different crooks in F and B flat), two bassoons and, during Mozart's era, usually a stringed double bass. Mozart's contrabassoon was a freakish instrument literally called "the serpent" and was most probably unreliable (and more importantly, the player could not stand and play, which often was necessary during entertainment music; the double bass could be tied to the player's body allowing him to move). The seven movements are heaven on earth for any lover of Mozart and wind players.

Jeff von der Schmidt

SOUTHWEST CHAMBER MUSIC SUMMER FESTIVAL AT THE HUNTINGTON

July 27 and 28, 2013

PROGRAM

Serenade in G major, K. 525 "Eine Kleine Nachtmusik"

Allegro

Romanze

Menuetto & trio

Rondo allegretto

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756-1791)

Lyris Quartet:

Alyssa Park & Shalini Vijayan, *violins* Luke Maurer, *viola*, Timothy Loo, *cello*

Baalkah for Soprano and String Quartet

Chac

Sac

Ek

Kan

Ak'

Gabriela Ortiz (b. 1964)

Ayana Haviv, soprano Lyris Quartet

INTERMISSION

String Sextet in D minor, op. 4 "Verklärte Nacht"

Arnold Schoenberg (1874-1951)

Alyssa Park & Shalini Vijayan, *violins* Luke Maurer & Zach Dellinger, *violas* Peter Jacobson & Timothy Loo, *cellos*

Serenade in G major, K. 525 "Eine Kleine Nachtmusik BY WOLGANG AMADEUS MOZART



1787 was a most eventful year for Mozart. *Don Giovanni* was commissioned, composed and produced. In April and May of that year Mozart composed the two pinnacles of his chamber music output, the *String Quintets in C major and G minor.*

Additionally, a young Beethoven visited him in his Blutgasse Apartment behind St. Stephen's Cathedral in Vienna with Mozart promising to teach him. In May of 1787, his father Leopold died. *Eine kleine Nachtmusik* was composed during a respite from the composition of Act II of the da Ponte opera. In October, *Don Giovanni* was produced; in December he was appointed court composer by Emperor Joseph II; and his daughter Theresia was born. Perhaps our overextended lives aren't anything new?

Eine kleine Nachtmusik is dated August 10, 1787 and one thing is sadly certain—there is a lost movement. All serenades contained two minuet movements. We are left with the tantalizing entry of the lost movement in Mozart's own catalogue listing. The missing movement would follow movement one. That the orchestration is only for strings is also unique for this entertainment genre. But all this now hardly matters. Eine kleine Nacthmusik is a musical equivalent of a famous line of Shakespeare, reminding us from time to time that clichés become clichés for a very, very good reason. This is Don Giovanni without its complicated drama, just pure and simple love music, especially in the famous Romanze. This favorite G major serenade is deserving of its audience affection, a wonderful combination of integrity and accessibility.

— Jeff von der Schmidt

Baalkah BY GABRIELA ORTZ



Baalkah, which means "world" or "cosmos" in Maya, was inspired by the cosmological beliefs of the Maya of the Yucatan Peninsula and of other Mexican and Central American Native peoples.

For over 5,000 years, these Indian peoples have conceived of the world as being divided into four cardinal directions: East, North, West and South. In each one of these directions stands a gigantic Ceiba tree that supports the sky, and each one has its particular cosmological characteristics, such as its own ruling deity, its own color, a set of related plants and animals, and more generally, its own mood or personality.

Sac **NORTH** White Death, War time Ek Ak' Chac **WEST CENTER EAST** Black Green Red **Endings, Femininity** House of Mankind Beginnings, Masculinity Kan SOUTH Yellow Life, Fertility

This quadripartite division of the world is closely related to time: each year is associated to a specific cardinal direction, and thus time rotates around the world

every four years, from East to North to West to South, bringing with itself the influences pertaining to each direction. These forces are both positive and negative, since in Indian thought there is no pure good and no pure evil. In the Center of the World, where mankind lives, all the characteristics of the four directions mingle.

The task of humankind is to assimilate and channel the influences that flow from each direction to ensure harmony and stability in the center. At the beginning of each year, the Mayas arrange a four legged table, symbolizing the Cosmos, with offerings to the deities of each of the four directions, thus guaranteeing that their world will remain firmly anchored and in harmony.

The lyrics of the first four songs of *Baalkah* are taken from a 17th century Maya book, the *Chilam Balam of Chumayel*, a priceless depository of centuries of historical and religious wisdom inherited by Maya priests and kept hidden from the prosecution of the Catholic Church.

Each member of the string quartet represents one of the four cardinal directions, and the center is represented by the soprano.

The songs, in turn, express the moods and characteristics of their corresponding cardinal point. *Chac* and *Ek*, related to dawn and masculinity, and to dusk and femininity, respectively, are static and serene. *Sac and Kan*, related to death and war, and to fertility and life, are dramatic and powerful. Finally *Ak*', the center, gives pride of place to the voice of the soprano, representing humankind, in an expressive, melismatic chant.

Federico Navarrete

NEW RELEASE: Music by Gabriela Ortiz recorded by Southwest Chamber Music—purchase your copy this evening!

Verklärte Nacht (Transfigured Night)

BY ARNOLD SCHOENBERG



"Yesterday evening I heard Verklärte Nacht, Op. 4, and I would consider it a sin of omission if I did not say a word of thanks to you for your wonderful sextet. I had intended to follow the motives of my text in

your composition, but I soon forgot to do so, I was so enraptured by the music." This letter of December 12, 1912 from Richard Dehmel to Arnold Schoenberg attests to the ability of Schoenberg's Verklärte Nacht (Transfigured Night) to transform the listener. It was Dehmel's poem by the same name from an anthology entitled Weib und Welt (Woman and World) that inspired Schoenberg's music. In an article called "My Evolution," written while the composer lived in Los Angeles, Schoenberg made no attempts to disguise the music's debt to both Brahms and Wagner. His predilection for juxtaposition of ideas and unity of form is clear in Verklärte Nacht, concerns which intensified with the succeeding works Pelleas und Melisande, Op. 5, the String Quartet No.1 in D minor, Op. 7, and the Kammersymphonie, Op. 9. A year before his death in 1950 Schoenberg wrote about this work: "My composition was, perhaps, somewhat different from other illustrative compositions, firstly, by not being for orchestra but for a

chamber group and secondly, because it does not illustrate any action or drama, but was restricted to portray nature and to express human feelings."

Those feelings, as represented by Dehmel's poem, remain current and topical. The narrative describes the predicament of a woman who is pregnant from what we would today call an abusive relationship. She has subsequently fallen in love with a man who is not the father of the child. Schoenberg's composition tells the story of the evening walk where she has finally summoned up the courage to tell the new man in her life the truth about her past relationship and her current pregnancy. The woman's intense fears of what this revelation will bring prove to be unfounded. She has indeed found the "right" man, who tenderly tells her that he understands her past situation, that he will not withdraw his love because of the current circumstance, and that they will raise the child as their own. As these now assured lovers continue their walk, the night is transfigured before them in one of music's most magical conclusions, resolving the visible darkness of the psychological fear of devastating rejection with the tranquility of returned love and affection, a blissful All's Well That Ends Well to this fateful walk in the woods.

Jeff von der Schmidt

Southwest Chamber Music would like to thank....

















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SOUTHWEST CHAMBER MUSIC SUMMER FESTIVAL AT THE HUNTINGTON

August 10 and 11, 2013

PROGRAM

Albumleaf for Betty Schott Richard Wagner (1813-1883)

Ming Tsu, solo piano

Quintet in A major for Clarinet & Strings, op. 46

Moderato ed amabile

Vivace

Largo

Poco allegretto

Max Reger (1873-1916)

Jim Foschia, *clarinet*Lorenz Gamma & Shalini Vijayan, *violins*Luke Maurer, *viola*, Peter Jacobson, *cello*

INTERMISSION

Trio in E flat for Violin, Horn & Piano, op. 40
Andante – poco piu animato
Allegro – molto meno allegro
Adagio mesto
Finale – allegro con brio

Johannes Brahms (1833-1897)

Lorenz Gamma, *violin* Andrew Pelletier, *horn* Ming Tsu, *piano*

Albumleaf for Betty Schott BY RICHARD WAGNER



"Here is the albumleaf composed for you! It contains the first musical promptings that I have had since the exhausting work of *Götterdämmerung*." Wagner wrote this charming *Albumleaf for Betty Schot*t in 1875 after the

completion of *Der Ring des Nibelungen* as a thank-you present to his publisher. A relaxed compositional "victory lap," the movement is similar to the *Siegfried Idyll* in its unification of ideas in a one movement form. The *Albumleaf* demonstrates a charming human side to this complex vegetarian, ideologue, anti-Semite, Saint Bernard-loving genius that was all frustratingly rolled into one personality. An interesting postscript: the 1876 world premiere of *Der Ring des Nibelungen* in Bayreuth took place the same year as the first complete performance of Goethe's *Faust*, the world premieres of Verdi's *Requiem*, and *Die Fledermaus* by Johann Strauß, Jr.

Quintet in A major for Clarinet & Strings, op. 46 BY MAX REGER



Max Reger was born to be the most transitional figure in European music history—his last name is a palindrome. This birthright symbolized a virtuosity that would enable him to go backwards and forwards in novel and

inspiring ways. His extraordinary fluidity with tonal harmony would see no distinction between melody and counterpoint. Perhaps more than any other composer, Reger reconciled the seemingly irreconcilable worlds of Wagner and Brahms. His ability to achieve this epochal task is due to his profound knowledge of the music of Johann Sebastian Bach. Roll all these talents into one figure and you find the missing link that transformed tonality into the new world of late Mahler and early Schoenberg, Berg and Webern.

Reger's music is today caught in a vicious whirlpool. On the one hand, he is too complicated for conservative performers to master, and on the other, he is not liberal enough for new music pioneers. What has been lost in this Scylla and Charybdis is an output of great originality, extraordinary melodic counterpoint, prophetic density, and an undeniably epic quality guiding the way to the idealist world of a Symbolist *Ver Sacrum*. The autumn twilight of Klimt's gold leaf painting sounds in every bar of a major Reger composition.

Describing the events of a Reger composition is ultimately a musical tour of late Romanticism. To attempt to hear a single melody from the changing shapes of his *Clarinet Quintet*, *Op. 146*, as in a comparable work of Brahms, is to misunderstand the reconciliation Reger achieved between

Wagner and Brahms. What does emerge is a continuous ebb and flow, the tossing of a harmonic *Raft of the Frigate Medusa* that puts Wagner's endless melody in a Brahmsian context of abstract structure and form. The genuine contact point between Brahms and Wagner is their focus on individual intervals generating long term structure (which they inherited from Beethoven and which Mahler would use to rethink harmonic gravity in his mammoth symphonies). Reger forges their similarities into a true new music for his era, an artistic achievement of profound proportion, which makes Reger an essential element of the musical landscape. He united opposite aesthetics in a prodigious way.

This final work of his fast and intense output is *in excelsis* Reger's most successful chamber composition, and is a perfect introduction to his music for the first time listener. The fusion of melody and counterpoint is beguiling. The music glows with the hue of a full glass of Late Harvest *Rieslingtrockenbeerenauslese*. And the melancholy of the piece is genuine—a sad reminder that, like Mozart and Brahms before him, Reger consciously turned toward an A major clarinet quintet as a valedictory, sadly at the age of 43.

Trio in E flat for Violin, Horn & Piano, op. 40 BY JOHANNES BRAHMS



Written when Brahms was 32 years old, the *Op. 40 Trio* is both polished and filled with the vigor of early adulthood. Associated with his stay in Baden-Baden during the summer of 1865, the very landscape seems to have inspired

Brahms' musical urges, for he pointed out a spot in the wooded heights to a friend and said "I was walking along one morning, and as I came to this spot the sun shone out and with it this theme." The combination of violin, horn and piano was unusual in Brahms' day and it has been said that the choice of instruments was made because these were the three instruments Brahms could play. The first movement begins with the theme which visited Brahms in the Baden-Baden woods. The overall effect is one of lyric geniality and warmth. The second movement includes many instances of imposing a duple rhythm over a 3/4 measure. The trio section in the dark key of A flat minor includes a melodic phrase similar to the posthorn call found in Mahler's Symphony No. 3. The third movement was a musical response by the composer to the death of his mother, and the impression created is of articulating a profound secret until the tension can no longer be contained. Near the end of the movement Brahms looks into what was at the time the musical unknown, mysteriously predicting the principal, rollicking theme of the final movement in a soft verklärung of a chorale for violin and horn. The last movement should be played, as Clara Schumann commented about a contemporary performance, "as if shot out of a pistol."

—Jeff von der Schmidt

SOUTHWEST CHAMBER MUSIC SUMMER FESTIVAL AT THE HUNTINGTON

August 24 and 25, 2013

PROGRAM

Eight Folksong Arrangements for Voice & Harp

Benjamin Britten

(1913-1976)

Lord! I married me a wife She's like the swallow

I was lonely & forlorn David of the White Rock

Lemady

The false knight upon the road

Bonny at morn

Bird scarer's song

Jon Lee Keenan, tenor, Alison Bjorkedal, harp

L'autunno for Wind Quintet

Hans Werner Henze

(1926-2012)

I. Moderato II. Allegretto

III. Allegramente - malincolia

IV. Vivace – allegramente – molto meno mosso

Vivace e burlesco - con moto - un poco meno mosso

V. Quia respexit humilitatem ancillae suae

(Movements I and II, and Movements III through V, are played without pause)

Larry Kaplan, piccolo/ flute/ alto flute, Jonathan Davis, oboe/ oboe d'amore Jim Foschia, clarinet/ E flat clarinet/ bass clarinet Andrew Pelletier, French horn/ Wagner tuba, Judith Farmer, bassoon/contrabassoon Jeff von der Schmidt. conductor

INTERMISSION

A Birthday Hansel, op. 92 Birthday song

Benjamin Britten

(1913-1976)

My early walk

Wee Willie

My hoggie

Afton water

The winter

Leezie Lindsay

These songs were written at the special wish of Her Majesty the Queen for her mother's seventy-fifth birthday, August 4, 1975.

Jon Lee Keenan, tenor, Alison Bjorkedal, harp

Leoš Janácek Mládí for Wind Sextet

(1854-1928)Allegro

Andante sostenuto

Vivace

Allegro animato

Larry Kaplan, flute, Jonathan Davis, oboe, Jim Foschia, clarinet, Helen Goode, bass clarinet Andrew Pelletier, French horn, Judith Farmer, bassoon, Jeff von der Schmidt, conductor



Artist bios may be found at www.swmusic.org/about us/musicians.html

8 Folk Song Arrangements & A Birthday Hansel, op. 92 BY BENJAMIN BRITTEN



The 8 Folk Song Arrangements are the last works Britten wrote for Peter Pears, his life long partner. A last look at the British Isles, the songs celebrate a sense of home and place worthy of a final goodbye. The two men were

the most accomplished married couple in music's history, for married they were despite any legal status of their time. These two compositions belong to a series of vocal works he wrote after suffering a serious heart attack in 1973. His illness left him unable to perform with Pears. Britten wisely turned to the harp and its brilliant player Osian Ellis. Britten was notorious for expecting the highest standards of professionalism from performers. Ellis was able to satisfy the composer's need for perfection. Written at the flattering request of the Queen Mother for her 75th birthday in 1975. Britten's last song cycle A Birthday Hansel set poems by Scotland's Robert Burns. This continuous work is a garland of perfection benefiting a royal private performance at Sandringham. The temptation to hear Britten preparing the comfort of grief for Pears, his lover left on earth for a few more years, is palpable. In their ideal resonance of text and music, the angelic association of the harp makes these final works all the more poignant as a summing up of life's experience.

L'Autunno, Musica per 5 Suonatori de Strumento a Fiato BY HANS WERNER HENZE

L'autunno, musica per 5 suonatori di strumenti a fiato (or in English, Autumn, music for 5 players of wind instruments) is the complete title given by Hans Werner Henze to this major work celebrating a return to health. Like Britten before him in 1973, Henze suffered a life threatening heart attack in 1977. L'autunno was composed after this experience at his Tuscan hideaway in Montepulciano, an elegant villa called La Leprara. There is naturally a profound personal reflection in this composition, and like Mozart, the quintet is an opera without words. The title not only describes the season of autumn, but harvests the instrumentation of a normal wind quintet. In all, twelve instruments are used: piccolo, flute, alto flute, oboe, oboe d'amore, E-flat clarinet, clarinet, bass clarinet, French horn, Wagner tuba, bassoon and contrabassoon. The first movement features the oboe d'amore and alto flute, in a dense but very gentle texture. Feelings of calm Tuscan breezes resolve eventually into silence before a clarinet solo at the movement's end. The second movement belongs to the Wagner tuba with Henze offering a very droll scene indeed. The third movement begins with a cadenza for the solo French horn, a brutal and short march leading to an accompanied horn solo marked Malincolia. The harmonic

effects are very dense, but again gentle, as in the first movement. A bassoon cadenza reconnects to the mood of the second movement and leads into a wild circus scene worthy of Fellini, with cake walks and burlesques alternating with passionate lyrical phrases. The piccolo, e-flat clarinet and bass clarinet shine in this vibrant scene painting. As the operatic ruckus calms down, an extremely nostalgic passage for piccolo, clarinet and. horn leads to an extended cadenza for the contrabassoon, proceeding without break into the final movement. The fifth movement is inscribed Quia respexit humilitatem ancillæ suæ from the Gospel of St. Luke and features a direct quotation from Bach's Magnificat. Symbolizing the breath of life, Henze brilliantly used wind instruments to celebrate his return to health after serious illness. After a solo introduction from of the lowest instrument of the ensemble and with Bach as his guide, Henze's final movement of L'autunno magnifies the graciousness of answered prayer "because He hath regarded the humility of his handmaid."

*Mládí (Youth)*BY LEOŠ JANÁCEK



Leoš Janácek, like Smetena and Dvorák, was a composer who worked indefatigably for the advancement of the music of his native Czechoslovakia, today the Czech Republic. Born in Hukvaldy, Moravia, on July 3, 1854,

Janácek was educated at the Augustine monastery in Brno, and at the Prague, Leipzig, and Vienna Conservatories. In 1881, he was appointed director of the Brno Organ School, simultaneously assuming the conductorship of the Czech Philharmonic Orchestra. He was active as a composer throughout his long and distinguished career, producing some of his finest works during the last years of this life. He died at Morava-Ostrava on August 12, 1928. Mládí (Youth), Janácek's delightful sextet for winds, was written in July 1924, when the composer was celebrating his 70th birthday. He was collecting memories of his youth for a biography being written about him, and his thoughts went back to his life at the Brno monastery. The work constitutes a musical reminiscence of Janácek's day at the monastery. Janácek often made use of what he called "speech melody" —melody whose contours were inspired by the characteristic rhythm and cadence of the Czech language. In the jaunty first movement, which is in the form of a free rondo, the principal theme is said to have been derived from the speech melody of the sigh "Youth, golden youth." The second movement is a theme with four free variations. The third movement is a scherzo with a perky piccolo tune taken from Janácek's little March of the Blue Boys, who were boys at the monastery who sang and whistled as they marched along. The final movement recalls the principal theme of the first movement in combination with new material.

Jeff von der Schmidt

Southwest Chamber Music in the Schools

■ PROJECT MUSE IN-SCHOOL CONCERTS

Project Muse in-school concerts are an opportunity for students 12-18 to gain an appreciation for music. Aligned with the California State Standards, the programs feature music from all historical periods and styles. Programs also draw connections between music and other subjects, such as history, math, English, poetry, drama and science.

The musical ensembles range from 1-6 players, drawn from Grammy-winning Southwest Chamber Music's roster. Every program features a lively question and answer period, which gives students the chance to interact with the players. Each participating school may engage the ensembles for repeat visits, allowing the students to build their listening and deportment skills while increasing their musical knowledge.

■ MENTORSHIP PROGRAM

The Mentorship Program provides in-school orchestra and chamber music coaching for students 12-18. Students develop their instrumental skills through work with professional musician mentors from Grammy-winning Southwest Chamber Music. Mentors work with small groups of students from each orchestra section, focusing on orchestra music while helping students develop their individual skills.



Additional chamber music sessions for selected students focus on teaching ensemble skills, culminating in special school and community performances. The Mentors, who may provide advice and recommendations for college music scholarships, can also offer private lessons when requested.

Southwest Chamber Music has presented programs with the Los Angeles Unified School District, the Alhambra Unified School District, the Glendale Unified School District, and the Pasadena Unified School District.

If you are interested in having a *Project Muse* Concert or *Mentorship Program* at your school, please contact the office at **626.685.4455** or *mail@swmusic.org.*

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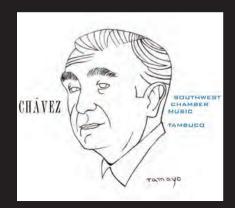
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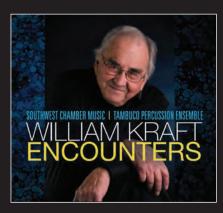
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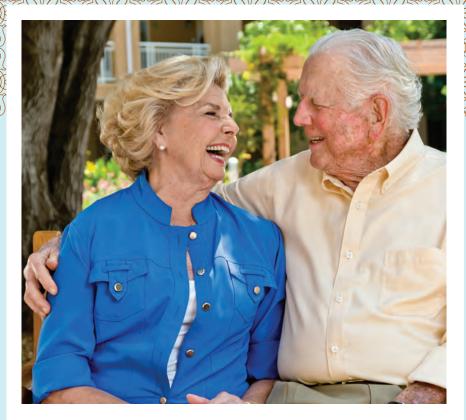
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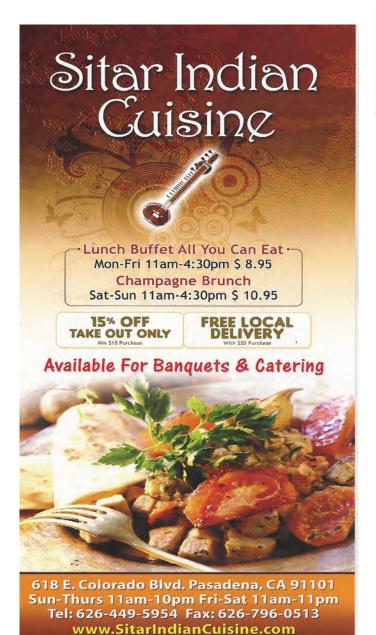


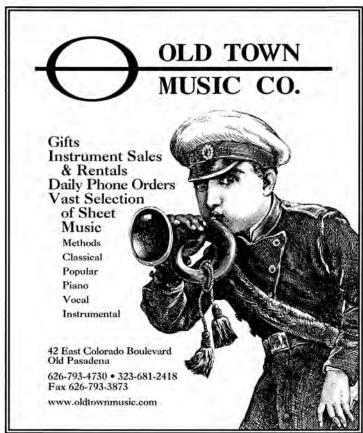
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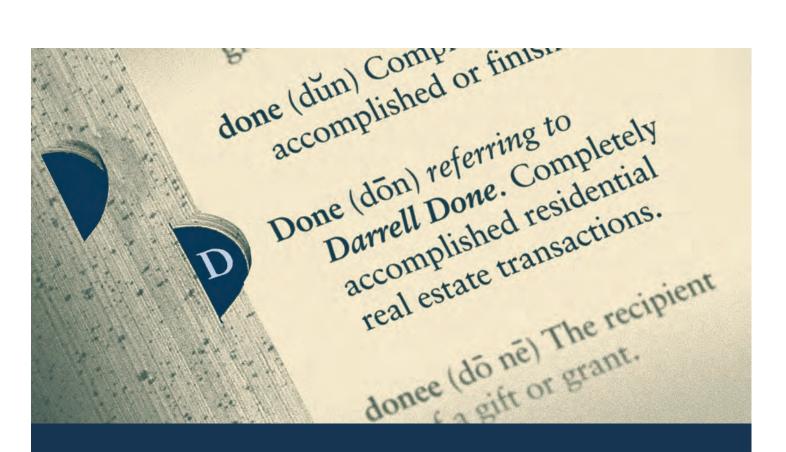
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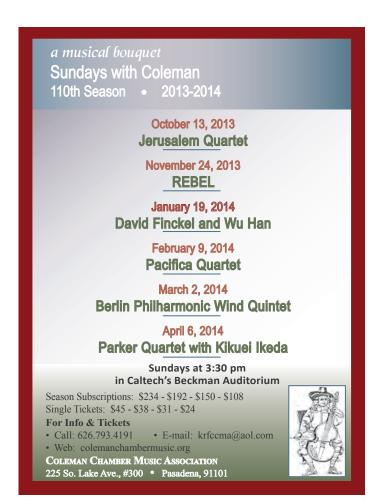
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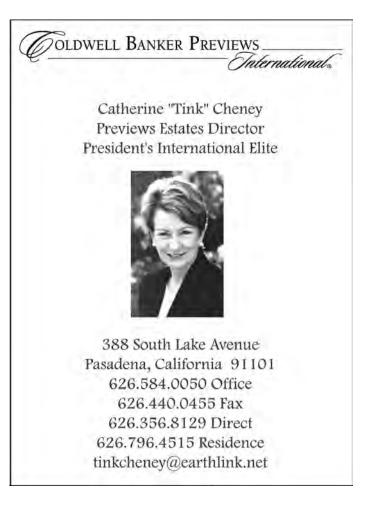
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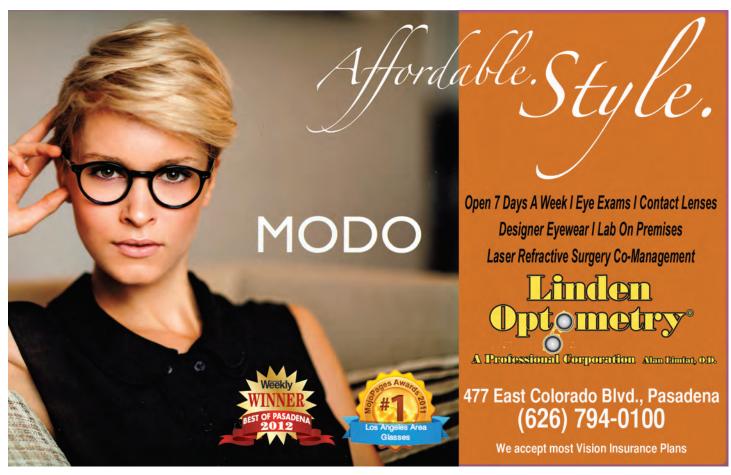




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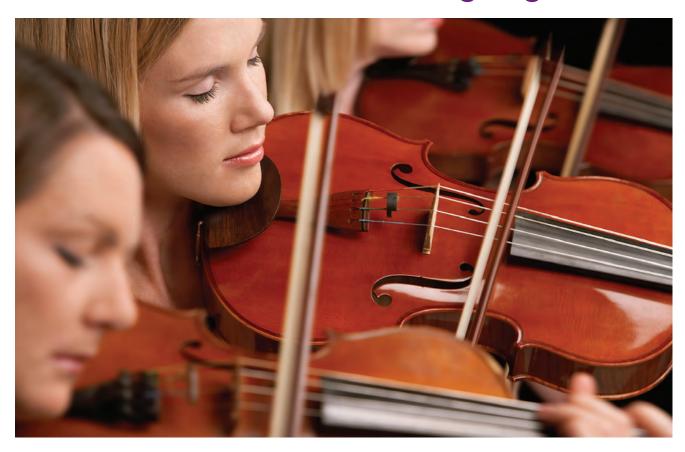
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