



IN CONCERT

Classical Music in the Valley

Sunday, April 27, 2014

Jones Theater, Westcliffe, Colorado

CONFLUENCE SAXOPHONE QUARTET

Jeremy Wendelin - soprano saxophone

Christin Garcia - alto saxophone

Tyson Haynes - tenor saxophone

William Graves - baritone saxophone

Quartet for Saxophones

Aldemaro Romero (1928–2007)

1. Fandango
2. Serenata
3. Choro y Tango

Revolution

Marc Mellits (b. 1966)

- I. Groove Canon
- II. Mara's Toys
- III. December, 1989
- IV. Groove Machine

arr. Jonathan Nichol

Introduction et Variations sur une Ronde Populaire **Gabriel Pierné**

(1863–1937)

– INTERMISSION –

Mountain Roads

David Maslanka (b. 1943)

- I. Overture
- II. Chorale: Wo soll ich fliehen
- III. Aria (in the style of a chorale prelude)
- IV. Chorale
- V. Aria
- VI. Finale

Three Preludes

George Gershwin (1898–1937)

Prelude No. 1 - Moderately

arr. Bill Holcombe

Prelude No. 2 - Andante con moto e poco rubato

Prelude No. 3 - Allegro ben ritmico e deciso

Enjoy an exhibit by the Westcliffe Contemporary Quilters and Fiber Artists in Studio 2.
You are invited to a reception to meet the performers after the concert.

PROGRAM NOTES by David Niemeyer

You may not be familiar with the name **Aldemaro Romero**, but you have probably heard his work many times over several decades. He worked with non-classical musicians including Dean Martin, Jerry Lee Lewis, Stan Kenton, and Tito Puente. In addition, Romero was a classical musician who was a guest conductor for the London Symphony Orchestra, the English Chamber Orchestra, and the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, and he founded the Caracas Philharmonic Orchestra. As a composer, Romero stuck to his Venezuelan roots, as evidenced by the **Quartet for Saxophones**. Fandango is a lively dance based loosely on a triple meter. The Seranata makes you wish there were words so that you could sing along. The final movement Choro y Tango is confusing in a good way. A choro is a lament, whereas a tango – come on, you know what a tango is. This compositional juxtaposition results in a very satisfying finale.

Marc Mellits is a classically-trained pianist who learned composition at the Eastman School of Music. At Eastman he succumbed to the influence of rock music. Stylistically, Mellits combines minimalist, post minimalist, and rock idioms. With Mellits' permission, Johnathan Nichol, who has a doctorate in saxophone performance and is Assistant Professor of Saxophone at the University of Minnesota, made an arrangement of the String Quartet No. 2 by Mellits for saxophone quartet which he called **Revolution**. The Nichol transcription utilizes unusual techniques, such as slap tonguing, which adds a percussive element to the performance.

Gabriel Pierné was a French composer who studied organ with Cesar Franck and composition with Jules Massenet. In 1936 Pierné produced a work for saxophone quartet called **Introduction et Variations sur une Ronde Populaire**. This composition begins, as advertised, begins with a slow introduction, then progresses through several variations including a fugue and a pair of divertissements which, I'm told, are as much fun to play as they are to listen to. This is probably why this piece is a staple today of saxophone quartet literature.

David Maslanka is an American composer who trained at the Oberlin Conservatory and earned a MM and a PhD from Michigan State University. **Mountain Roads** is an intriguing name for a Saxophone Quartet and begs for explanation. Maslanka explains in his own words:

The music of Mountain Roads is a very personal statement. I feel very deeply about every bit of it. The musical plan of it follows the model of a Baroque cantata, and style and content reflect my years of study of the Bach chorales, and of Bach in general. Obviously there are no words in my 'cantata' but the music revolves entirely around two chorale melodies. The title Mountain Roads comes from a dream I had while writing the piece.

George Gershwin was a pianist who had a unique sense of harmony, color, and rhythm in a jazz context. He studied in Paris with Nadia Boulanger and many of his subsequent compositions were inspired by classical music forms. Like Bach, Rachmaninoff, and Chopin, Gershwin aspired to compose 24 preludes, but only three were ultimately published. The **Three Preludes**, which we will hear today, were so successful that they have been transcribed into arrangements for practically every combination of instruments imaginable.

CONFLUENCE SAXOPHONE QUARTET

Although the saxophone quartet has not been around as long as some other classical ensembles - like the string quartet - the breadth and depth of the literature are impressive. Our program today will be very diverse, offering something for many different musical tastes; still, everything we do is grounded in the tradition of great chamber music.

The Confluence Saxophone Quartet is a talented, dynamic group based in Denver, Colorado. The name refers, on one hand, to the group's home city, founded at the confluence of two rivers. It also refers to the group's origins, as saxophonists from different backgrounds, schools and places, who came together in Denver in 2008. Finally, it encapsulates the quartet's philosophy — a musical confluence of diverse influences, styles and ideas. From baroque and classical transcriptions to new, unpublished works; from core saxophone quartet repertoire to innovative borrowings; from jazz to avant-garde to music from around the world, the Confluence Saxophone Quartet merges many sources of inspiration into a unique concert experience.

The Confluence Saxophone Quartet has performed throughout Colorado's Front Range, entertaining audiences at small, local venues as well as educational and concert performances. The quartet's concert and festival appearances have included the Bravo! Vail festival's Music on the Move series, Denver Eclectic Concerts, and St. John's Episcopal Cathedral. Members also bring experience as concert soloists, jazz artists, session musicians, clinicians, and teachers to the group, enabling the quartet to engage many audiences, from cafes to classrooms to concert halls.

JEREMY WENDELIN - soprano saxophone

Jeremy Wendelin studied classical saxophone with Robert Musser at the University of Puget Sound, winning that school's Concerto/Aria Contest, performing as a featured soloist, and sharing the stage with guest artists such as Ray Brown, Poncho Sanchez, and Art Farmer. After receiving his BA and MEd, Jeremy returned to his native Colorado in 2000. Mr. Wendelin is an active soloist in the Denver area and has been featured with the Evergreen Chamber Orchestra, the Jefferson Symphony Orchestra, and on numerous concert series. He co-founded the Confluence Saxophone Quartet in 2008 and continues to perform with and arrange for the group. Along with classical performances, he maintains a busy schedule performing at festivals, clubs, concerts and events both with his own jazz ensemble and other groups, including Salsa con Jazz, Swing Je T'aime, the Spotlight Band, and the Ultraphonic Jazz Orchestra. Mr. Wendelin also directs the saxophone ensemble at Mountain Vista High School in Highlands Ranch, Colorado, and maintains a studio of private students in the Denver area.

CHRISTIN GARCIA - alto saxophone

Christin Garcia received a BMed and BM degrees from the University of New Mexico and completed an MM degree at the Michigan State University. She currently performs with the Colorado Wind Ensemble and Confluence Saxophone Quartet. Aside from performing, Christin also teaches music at Abraham Lincoln High School in Denver Public Schools where she directs the beginning band, guitar and mariachi programs.

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TYSON HAYNES - tenor saxophone

A native of Portland, Oregon, Tyson began playing the saxophone at the age of twelve. Since moving to Colorado, Tyson has established himself as an active performer and educator throughout the region. After earning his MM degree in Jazz from the University of Northern Colorado, he relocated to Denver. He can be heard in a variety of different venues and groups, including the Metropolitan Jazz Orchestra, Buddy Rich Project, and his own quartet. Tyson is currently on the music faculty at Colorado Christian University.

WILLIAM GRAVES - baritone saxophone

Dr. William Graves received the BM degree from the University of Colorado Boulder and the MM and DMA degrees from the University of Texas at Austin, where he served as teaching assistant to saxophonist Harvey Pittel. He has performed with the Austin Symphony, the Tanglewood Music Center Orchestra, the Atlanta Pops Orchestra, the Colorado Wind Ensemble and regional orchestras in Austin, Laredo, and San Angelo, Texas, and Boulder, Parker, and Aurora, Colorado. He has appeared in solo recitals and clinics across the United States. Dr. Graves has served on the faculties of the Luzerne Music Center in New York and Camp Encore/Coda in Sweden, Maine. His performances have included an appearance in Carnegie Hall with the University of Texas Wind Ensemble, concerts with Ray Charles during the 1996 Summer Olympic Games in Atlanta, and an appearance as a soloist in Michael Colgrass's Urban Requiem with the University of Tennessee at Knoxville Wind Ensemble. Currently, he teaches Chemistry and AP Music Theory at Golden High School. He lives in Evergreen, Colorado, with his wife, 7-year-old son, and their German Shepherd, Elvis.

IN CONCERT continues its commitment to enriching the musical experience of students at the Custer County Schools. In addition to today's concert, the Confluence Saxophone Quartet will give two performances at the school, one for elementary and another for secondary students on Monday, April 28.

WANT MORE CLASSICAL MUSIC?

IN CONCERT hosts classical music programs on KWMV, 95.9 FM.

Music Your Way with Gary and Gwynethe Miller
Sunday Classics with David Niemeyer

Program schedule is available at www.kwmv.org

IN CONCERT is a proud sponsor of KWMV radio, your community-powered radio station for the Wet Mountain Valley.



IN CONCERT: Classical Music in the Valley was founded in 2003 to support and promote classical music in the Wet Mountain Valley. The mission of the group is to provide cultural and educational opportunities for residents of the area by presenting an annual series of live classical music performances and youth workshops.

*In Concert is a non-profit 501(c)3 organization.
Contributions are tax deductible.*

JOIN US FOR THE REMAINING CONCERT IN THE 2013-2014 SEASON

SOUTHERN COLORADO COMMUNITY BAND June 1, 2014 – 2:00
A free concert at the Hermit Park Pavilion

YOU ARE INVITED TO AN EXHIBIT IN STUDIO 2 BY THE WESTCLIFFE CONTEMPORARY QUILTERS AND FIBER ARTISTS

The Westcliffe Contemporary Quilters and Fiber Artists is a group dedicated to promoting creative fabric art. Members of the group meet monthly to share and learn new techniques, to improve their artistic design and sewing talents, and to produce collaborative creative works of art for exhibition, using contemporary images and techniques in fabric and fiber.

The show in Studio 2 has two parts: "Windows on Westcliffe" featuring views of the Wet Mountain Valley on quilts framed by recycled windows, and the "12 x 12 Challenge" which contains small quilts, each 12" x 12" depicting a dozen themes, created by a dozen different artists using mixed-media and a variety of contemporary art techniques.

Quilters involved in the show are Jane Arbuckle, Renee Bennett, Mary-Lou Giacomelli, Carolyn Gregor, Deloris Jobe, Betty Johansen, Kay Loudenberry, Becky Poisson, Paula Ray, Leilani Robinson, Sarah Smith and Julie Stamper, all of the Westcliffe area. Also included are Sue Davidson of Prescott, Arizona (formerly of Westcliffe), along with Rhonda Denney, Kathleen Lautaret, Deb Martin, and Kathleen Shepard of Cañon City.

The group has exhibited shows for the Zonta Club of Royal Gorge, the Fremont Art Center in Cañon City, Tactile Textile Art Center in Denver, the Denver National Quilt Festival, and in Westcliffe.

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www.inconcertwestcliffe.org
IN CONCERT: PO Box 1484, Westcliffe, Colorado 81252

Thanks to all the people who have made the 2013-2014 season possible.

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Many thanks to all who contributed to **IN CONCERT** through the 2013 Wet Mountain Valley Community Foundation Spirit Campaign. Your names will be listed in the programs for the 2014--2015 season.

You can show your support at any time by donating directly to
In Concert, PO Box 1484, Westcliffe, Colorado 81252.

ANNOUNCING THE 2014-2015 SERIES

OPERA THEATRE OF THE ROCKIES, *Let's Make a Scene II* – November 16, 2014
PATRICK SUTTON & KIMBERLY PATTERSON, Guitar and Cello – January 18, 2015
BOULDER BASSOON QUARTET – April 19, 2015