



Southwest Chamber Music

presents

Project Muse

January 2013

The Eclipse Quartet

Sara Parkins - violin
Sarah Thornblade - violin
Alma Lisa Fernandez - viola
Maggie Parkins - cello

Program

Quartet Opus 76 No. 3

Joseph Haydn
1732 - 1809

No Quarter

Sean Heim
b. 1967

String Quartet Set
Estampie

Lou Harrison
1917 - 2003

Revised Standards
I Concentrate On You

Ben Johnston
b. 1926

String Quartet #3 (Mishima)
VI: Mishima/Closing

Philip Glass
b. 1937

Four for Tango

Astor Piazzola
1921-1992

About the Eclipse Quartet

The Eclipse Quartet is an ensemble dedicated to the music of twentieth century and present day composers. The scope of their repertoire spans works from John Cage and Morton Subotnick to collaborations with the singers Beck and Caetano Veloso. Eclipse has the versatility to cross genres from works that include electronics and computer processing to the jazz compositions of grammy award winning pianist Billy Childs. The Quartet has performed frequently on both coasts and has participated in festivals such as the Look and Listen Festival in NYC, the Scarlatti Festival in Naples, Italy, the Martha's Vineyard Chamber Music Festival and the Angel City Jazz Festival in Los Angeles.

The repertoire of Eclipse contains works by such dynamic composers as Roger Reynolds, Julia Wolfe, Ben Johnston, Ruth Crawford Seeger, Annie Gosfield, John Zorn, Fred Frith, Philip Glass, John King and Lois V. Vierk. They have premiered new works by Zeena Parkins, Carla Kihlstedt, Justin Haynes, Gernot Wolfgang, Stephen Cohn and David Jaffe.

Eclipse has recorded the string quartets of Zeena Parkins for the Tzadik label and will be releasing Morton Feldman's epic String Quartet and Piano piece on Bridge Records in the winter of 2013. Eclipse is currently working to record three works for percussion and string quartet with percussionist William Winant on New World Records in 2013 as recipients of the Aaron Copland Fund for Music Recording Grant.

The Eclipse Quartet are Artists in Residence at Mills College in Oakland California and at the historic artists' retreat Villa Aurora in Los Angeles.



Musical Vocabulary (from the California Standards for the Arts, unless noted otherwise)

DYNAMICS are various degrees of volume in the performance of music, such as loud and soft.

EXTENDED TECHNIQUES are unconventional, unorthodox techniques of playing musical instruments, in order to expand and explore the possibilities of different instruments.

HARMONICS are the series of different notes than can be played by fingering one fundamental note and changing air speed/embouchure to reach the higher ones. There is a different harmonic series for each fundamental fingering.

IMPROVISATION is the spontaneous creation of music.

An **INTERVAL** is the distance in pitch between two tones.

A **MELODY** is an organized sequence of single notes.

The **METER** is the grouping of beats by which a piece of music is measured.

MINIMALISM in music is a reductive style or school of modern music utilizing only simple sonorities, rhythms, and patterns, with minimal embellishment or orchestrational complexity, and characterized by protracted repetition of figurations, obsessive structural rigor, and often a pulsing, hypnotic effect.

PONTICELLO is a string instrument technique where one plays on the bridge of the instrument to achieve a special effect.

RHYTHM is the combination of long and short, even and uneven sounds that convey a sense of movement in time.

SCORDATURA is an alternate tuning used for the open strings of a string instrument. It is an extended technique used to allow the playing of otherwise impossible melodies, harmonies, figures, chords, or other note combinations.

A **SCORE** is the written form of the entire composition. All players have a part of the score for their instrument, unless they have memorized the notes.

SOUND PERCEPTION is how you interpret what you hear and where you hear it.

The **STRING FAMILY** is the group of instruments that uses strings to produce sound. The strings are made of gut, steel, or nylon. Stringed instruments can be played with a bow- a long stick that has horsehair attached to it, or they can be played by plucking or strumming the strings with the fingers.

The **TIMBRE** is the tone color or character of sound heard.

The **TONALITY (KEY)** is the tonal center of a composition.

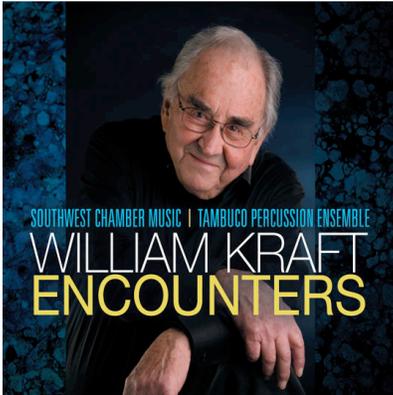
TREMOLLO is a shaking sound which is achieved by repeating the same note extremely quickly or by playing two notes very quickly, one after the other.

Continue Learning with these Internet Resources:

For more information on *The Eclipse Quartet*, visit:
www.eclipsequartet.com

To try to *create your own composition* at:
www.creatingmusic.com

Another excellent interactive website for kids with *information about instruments* is:
www.playmusic.org



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2013 LA INTERNATIONAL NEW MUSIC FESTIVAL

January 26, February 2, February 23, March 2

The Colburn School
200 South Grand Ave.
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Mention your school to receive complimentary tickets!

Southwest Chamber Music's educational programs are funded in part by the Alhambra Unified School District, Ann and Gordon Getty Foundation, Arts for All, California Arts Council, The Capital Group Companies Charitable Foundation, D'Addario Music Foundation, Eleven Twenty Seven Foundation, Flourish Foundation, Frieda C. Fox Family Foundation, Glendale Unified School District, Green Foundation, Lluella Morey Murphey Foundation, Los Angeles County Arts Commission, Metropolitan Associates, Pasadena Arts League, Pasadena Showcase House for the Arts, Rose Hills Foundation, Sidney Stern Memorial Trust, Weingart Foundation, and Wells Fargo Foundation.

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