

Musical Program

Jan Pieters Sweelinck (1562-1621)

Variations on a Folksong

Theme: "Mein junges Leben hat ein End" (*My young life has ended*)

Arr: Ernest Lubin

Peter Gilbert (b. 1975)

"Morning Shades" (2013)

Jacques Ibert (1890-1962)

Trois Pieces Breve

- I. Allegro
- II. Andante
- III. Assez lent: Allegro scherzando

INTERMISSION

Valerie Coleman (b. 1970)

Afro-Cuban Concerto for Wind Quintet (2001)

- I. Afro
- II. Vocalise
- III. Danza

Arne Running (1943-2016)

"Quodlibet" from *Aria and Quodlibet for Woodwind Quintet* (2004)

Donors

For a full list of our generous donors go to our website
PlacitasArts.org

How to Support PAS

Sponsor a concert

Become a Donor

Purchase Tickets

Contribute to the Endowment Fund

Featured Artist of the Season

Dianna Shomaker is a Placitas treasure, a past board member and president of the Placitas Artists Series, and, above all, a consummate artist with incredible talent. We are pleased that Dianna is our *Featured Artist* for the 37th season.

Our Next Concert

December 17, 2023

Kim Fredenburgh, Altura Ensemble

The Placitas Artists Series

Presents

The New Mexico Winds

Woodwind Quintets

Sunday, November 12, 2023



Valerie Potter, Flute
Kevin Vigneau, Oboe
Jeffrey Brooks, Clarinet
Denise Turner, Bassoon
Michael Walker, Horn

For tickets and other concert information, visit our website.

PlacitasArts.org ■ 505-867-8080

f facebook.com/placitasartists.series/

Concert generously sponsored by
BJ & Alan Firestone

Shelley & Herb Koffler



Placitas Artists Series projects are made possible in part by New Mexico Arts, a division of the Department of Cultural Affairs, and the National Endowment for the Arts.

Notes on Today's Concert

Jan Pieters Sweelinck was a Dutch composer, organist, and pedagogue whose work straddled the end of the Renaissance and beginning of the Baroque eras. He was among the first major keyboard composers of Europe and represented a pinnacle in keyboard contrapuntal complexity and refinement before J.S. Bach. Sweelinck was a master improviser, and this theme and six variations for organ is rightly regarded as his masterpiece. The original folksong was a popular secular German tune in the early 1600s.

Peter Gilbert's work combines traditional instrumental writing with elements of improvisation, live-performed electronics, and other media. Currently an associate professor of theory and composition at the University of New Mexico, Gilbert composed this piece for The New Mexico Winds in 2013. It treats the woodwind quintet like one multi-timbral instrument, featuring largely synchronized rhythms throughout the work. Since the tempo is fluctuating, the woodwind quintet becomes a "group soloist," demonstrating the colors and the flexibility of this ensemble. The piece was inspired by the colors and natural beauty of New Mexico.

Gilbert wrote the following note to accompany the score for this composition: "As veils of deep damp green lift from yawning fronds / the dew begins its long journey back to the stream now flowing across stretching stones. / Hues emerge across the surface of leaves / and light makes its way, slowly, down the canopy. / Pause / a moment / and be a part of the coming into being. / Absorb the sound and the smell of all this / which will later bid us goodnight / when the next growths begin beyond our watch.

Jacques Ibert was a French composer who lived and worked in the middle of the 20th century. He is known for his "eclectic" style, not following the compositional trends of the time but pursuing his own path. Several of his works feature virtuosic writing for wind instruments, including concertos for the flute, oboe, and saxophone. His "Trois Pièces Brèves" (Three Short Pieces), written in 1930, is a short selection of music from a five-act comedy, "The Beaux's Stratagem," by Irish author George Farquhar. It is a joyful exploration of the dazzling technical capacity, as well as beautiful melodic qualities, of the members of the woodwind quintet.

Composer and flutist **Valerie Coleman** is a founding member of the Imani Winds, a Grammy-nominated woodwind quintet devoted to adventurous programming for the ensemble and showcasing diverse composers.

Coleman says, "Afro-Cuban Concerto for Wind Quintet is a work that focuses on Afro-Cuban rhythms, the feel of Santeria worship, and the virtuosity of wind instruments. For the first movement, "Afro," the introduction represents the collective voice of worshippers within the Santeria religion. The "Vocalise" begins as a prayer, with the bassoon and horn blending a unison melody into a unique and soothing color. The horn melody at the end of the work is a soaring melody that turns the prayer into a hot summer day in Havana. A powerful and brief tutti begins the "Danza," with the flute solo promising a percussive and wild

Notes (continued)

feeling throughout the entire piece. The repetitive rhythm takes on a life of its own, creating a sassy dance."

Arne Running was an American clarinetist, conductor, and composer whose works were commissioned by a variety of ensembles, including the Minnesota Orchestra, the St. Olaf College Band, and the Berks Classical Children's Chorus. Running's catalog of works is not large. He felt that if circumstances were not conducive to completing good work, the work was left undone. "It is easy to compose notes," he said. "It is not so easy to make sure the notes are telling the composer's story truthfully."

"Quodlibet" is defined by Merriam Webster as "a whimsical combination of familiar melodies or texts." Running's piece by that name is the second movement of "Aria and Quodlibet for Woodwind Quintet." It is a delightfully chaotic homage to popular melodies for woodwind and brass instruments. See how many you can recognize in this energetic romp for woodwind quintet!

Notes compiled by Valerie Potter & Jay Rodman from sources including Portuspress.com, Petergilbert.net, Vcolemanmusic.com, Arnerunning.com, & Wikipedia

About The New Mexico Winds

The New Mexico Winds are the faculty artist-in-residence woodwind quintet at the University of New Mexico. Formed in 1984, and performing most of the standard woodwind quintet repertoire and premiering new works for the ensemble. Additionally, The New Mexico Winds have collaborated with other instruments (piano, saxophone, and percussion to name a few) to explore repertoire beyond the quintet genre.

This ensemble has a mission to showcase existing woodwind chamber music with the community and to expand the boundaries of the genre by working with musicians outside of the ensemble and by performing new works. This quintet has premiered works by New Mexico composers including **William Wood**, **Christopher Shultis**, **Peter Gilbert**, and **Scott Wilkinson**. The New Mexico Winds have been featured as performers at conferences including the National Flute Association, The International Double Reed Society, and the College Music Society.

Flutist **Valerie Potter** plays principal flute with the New Mexico Philharmonic and is a regular performer with the Santa Fe Symphony, Santa Fe Pro Musica, and Opera Southwest. Oboist **Kevin Vigneau** plays principal oboe with the New Mexico Philharmonic and Santa Fe Pro Musica and is a member of the Santa Fe Opera orchestra. Clarinetist **Jeffrey Brooks** is currently the bass clarinetist with the New Mexico Philharmonic and the principal clarinetist with Santa Fe Pro Musica. **Denise Reig Turner** joined The New Mexico Winds in 1995 and is also principal bassoonist with Opera Southwest and the San Juan Symphony. She plays second bassoon with the New Mexico Philharmonic. **Michael Walker** plays with the Enchantment Brass and the Amity Trio.



Raffle: *Joy of Summer* by Dianna Shomaker, valued at \$2,000, will be given away to the raffle winner. Raffle tickets available on our website, at the library, and at the concert.

Our November Visual Artists



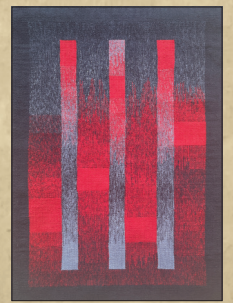
Liz Moores
Sculpture & Mixed Media



Mary Dereske
Gilded Photography on Vellum



Karen Melody Shatar
Fused Glass, Clay Sculpture



Ann Blankenship
Tapestry, Shibori Silk Scarves