HANUMI SAXOPHONE QUARTET

Quartette (1879) C. Florio (1843-1920)

I Andante II Allegro

Caryl Florio was an English born, American musician who spent much of his career in charge of music at the Vanderbilt estate. Florio composed a large amount of music, including hymns, chamber music, a piano concerto, 2 operas and 2 symphonies. Florio's real name was William James Robjohn but little else is known about this early American composer.

"Troldtog" from Lyric Pieces Op. 45 (1891)

E. Grieg (1843-1907)

Arr. Michael Jamieson

Edvard Grieg is probably most famous for his Peer Gynt incidental music and he is strongly associated with Norwegian themes, myth and folklore in his music. Grieg's great-grandfather was in fact a Scot who left his native land after the Battle of Culloden, eventually settling in Norway in about 1770.

Suite Bergamasque (pub. 1905)

C. A. Debussy (1862-1918)

Arr. Bill Holcome

III Clair de lune

Suite Bergamasque wasn't published until 15 years after the beginning of its composition. Debussy took the titles for the movements from poems by troubled yet acclaimed poet, Paul Verlaine. Debussy referred to the saxophone as an "aquatic" instrument, and similarly struggled with the composition of his little-known "Rapsodie Mauresque, for orchestra and principle saxophone" (1901-1918). This was the only work by Debussy in which he used the saxophone; however the fluid, "melancholic tone" of the instrument suits adaptation of the composer's music very well.

Brook Green Suite (1933)

G. Holst (1874-1934)

Arr. Michael Jamieson

I Prelude II Air III Dance

The English composer, Gustav Holst is well known to wind-instrumentalists for his wind ensemble music. (Holst played the trombone as well as piano and organ). As a student, he applied for a scholarship to the Royal College of Music, and although he was accepted to study in the course, the scholarship for the year was offered to Samuel Coleridge-Taylor instead. Eventually he was offered scholarships, but he had become quite accustomed to an austere lifestyle, and continued to live as a vegetarian. Brook Green Suite was originally written for string orchestra with ad. lib. flute, oboe and clarinet.

INTERVAL

Three Preludes (1926)

G. Gershwin (1898-1937)

Arr. Michael Jamieson

I Allegro ben ritmato e deciso II Andante con moto e poco rubato III Allegro ben ritmato e deciso

George Gershwin is well known for his jazz-tinged melodies. Two of his most popular works (both heavily featuring saxophones) are "Rhapsody in Blue" and "An American in Paris", the second of which he wrote in Paris. While there in Paris, Gershwin had approached many leading composers, including Maurice Ravel, that all rejected him as a potential student. Nadia Boulanger, the famous composition professor of the Paris Conservatoire, was afraid that rigorous classical study would ruin his jazz-influenced style.

Andante et Scherzo (1938)

E. Bozza (1905-1991)

The French composer, Eugène Bozza was noted for his wind writing. He wrote a large body of works and something for nearly every instrument in existence. His "Aria" (1936) for saxophone and piano is notable for being one of the few pieces originally for saxophone that is regularly "poached" by other instruments.

6 Bagatelles (1956) G. Ligeti (1923-2006)

I Allegro con spirit
II Rubato. Lamentoso
III Allegro grazioso
IV Presto ruvido
V (Béla Bartók in memoriam) Adagio. Mesto
VI Molto vivace. Capriccioso

This masterpiece of modern music, György Ligeti's 6 Bagatelles, was originally conceived as an 11-part piano cycle "Musica ricercata" (1953), but was resurrected in various forms including the basis of this version: the "6 Bagatelles for wind quintet". The Bagatelles were first performed in 1956, but not in their entirety as the last movement was censored by the soviets for being "too dangerous".

Histoire du tango (1986)

A. Piazzolla (1921-1992)

Trans. Claude Voirpy

II Café 1930

The Argentinian bandoneon player and master of the concert-tango, Astor Piazzolla, unlike Gershwin, did undertake studies in Paris with Boulanger. Her lessons in classical counterpoint deeply influenced Piazzolla and would play a key role in his later compositions. Another influence would come from the octet of baritone saxophonist Gerry Mulligan, which would inspire Piazzolla to create his own octet- and later to collaborate with the saxophone legend in the album "Summit" (1974).

Wapango (1990) P. D'Rivera (1948-)

Paquito D'Rivera is a tireless champion of latin-jazz music for saxophone and clarinet. The Cuban multi-instrumentalist's father was classical saxophonist and conductor, Tito Rivera. Paquito learned classical saxophone and clarinet and appeared with the national theatre orchestra at only 10 years of age. He is a multi Grammy award winner, having won 11 awards in his career so far.

5 Bagatelles (Miniatures) (2014)

M. Jamieson (1981)

I Presto
II Lento
III Allegretto
IV Andante
V Presto

HANUMI SAXOPHONE QUARTET

Hanumi was formed in 2008 in Enschede (in the Netherlands). Within a year of formation, the group was gaining success in competitions (3rd prize at the Selmer Paris Concours for saxophone quartets), as well as appearing in major chamber- music festivals around the country. They have performed on Dutch television and radio and regularly perform with other instrumentalists- constantly pushing the boundaries of "traditional" saxophone quartet repertoire.

Michael Jamieson

Michael studied in Wellington (NZSM), The Netherlands (Messiaen Academie) and France (Conservatoire de Strasbourg). Since completing his masters in 2006, he has been in demand as an orchestral and chamber musician, working with groups such as the NZSO, Auckland Philharmonia, Radio Chamber Orchestra (Netherlands), Rotterdam Philharmonic, Netherlands Symphony Orchestra, the Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra, Eclecta (modern music ensemble), The Rata Trio and Hanumi Saxophone Quartet. Michael is artist-teacher for saxophone at Auckland University School of Music.

Harmke Seinen

Harmke began her studies on saxophone at the age of 8 and at 16, was a soloist with the percussion ensemble "Soli Deo Gloria" Ommen, which was awarded first place at the World Music Contest, Kerkrade. She has since completed her Bachelor of Music at Enschede Conservatorium, studying with Johan van der Linden, as well as at the Conservatoire National de Region de Strasbourg, France, with Philippe Geiss.

Harmke has performed with the main Youth wind orchestras of the Netherlands and in 2006 performed at the World Saxophone Congress in Ljubljana, Slovenia, with Michael Jamieson. She played soprano saxophone in the German saxophone orchestra 'Saxperience' and performs regularly with various orchestras on all members of the saxophone family.

Harmke teaches at the 'International school Eerde', the 'muziekcentrum Westerveld' in Dieverbrug, as well as Orchestra societies in Ommen, Dedemsvaart, Nieuwleusen and Vroomshoop.

Miriam Kötter

Miriam was born in 1987 and took her first saxophone lessons at the age of 12. After several competitions successes "Jugend Musiziert" and "Lion's Club Wettbwerb" she was awarded a scholarship at the "Folkwang University of Arts" in Essen (2006) and began her studies to become a teacher.

In 2010 she received a grant for extraordinary accomplishments during her studies and in 2011 won an advancement award - together with Duo partner Lukas Stappenbeck - from the District Administrator of the region Oberberg.

She is member of the "JungeBläserPhilharmonie NRW", the Tintino Saxophone Quartet and has played with the "Neue Philharmonie Westfalen".

Lukas Stappenbeck

Lukas was born in Bocholt, Germany in 1990 and started playing the saxophone at age 13. After early success at competitions such as "Jugend Musiziert" and a 4-week stay at St. Mary's Music School, Edinburgh, he began pre-conservatorium studies with Johan van der Linden at the ArtEZ Conservatorium in Enschede (NL).

In 2010 Lukas started fulltime study in Enschede and one month later was invited to become saxophone teacher in the neighbouring town of Gronau. In 2011 Lukas performed with the "Junge Orchester NRW", and has performed live several times for the Netherlands' principal classical radio station. In competitions Lukas has gained major success, winning first prize at the "Bundeswettbewerb Jugend Musiziert" (2009) and the "Kulturförderpreis des Oberbergischen Kreises" 2011 (with Miriam Kötter). In 2012 he was a finalist at two major competitions: The "Gwk Förderpreis" and the "Grachtenfestival Conservatorium Concours" which gave him the opportunity to perform during the World famous "Grachtenfestival" in Amsterdam.