4-14-2019

Elective Recital: Ratewenniio George, percussion

Ratewenniio George

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Elective Recital:
Ratewenniio George, percussion

Helen Newell
Alison Quade
Sarah Nichols
Katelyn Miller
Myah Frank
Raelene Ford
Baoyu Wright
Gordon Stout

Nabenhauer Recital Room
Sunday, April 14th, 2019
2:00 pm
Program

Prelude No. 1
Michael Burritt (2004)

String Quartet - Internal Seasons (I)
Ratewenniio George (2015)

Helen Newell
Alison Quade
Sarah Nichols
Katelyn Miller

Danse Courte
Gordon Stout (2016)

The Wanderer
Ratewenniio George (2018)

Baoyu Wright
Myah Frank
Raelene Ford

Downward Circles
Ratewenniio George (2019)

Gordon Stout
String Quartet - Internal Seasons (I)

This is the first movement of a string quartet that I call "the Internal Seasons". I've titled this because each movement represents a different human emotion or mental state of being that everyone experiences at some point or another. The first movement (the one performed) represents the feeling of contentment. The second depicts lovelust. The third shows a visual representation of what it's like to be stuck inside your own head. I titled it "Adrift Through the Fog" because I feel that this is the best representation of what it feels like. The fourth and final movement depicts fear and an eventual death.

The Wanderer

This is the first of many pieces that I have written since I have been at Ithaca college. It follows the story of a man conforming to a new environment, and falling apart in the process. He starts out adapting, and eventually he gets to a point in life where he is content and excited for what may come. This is shown in the music by a high energy and major key, with bright harmonies and smooth cadences. The story changes as the music does when he makes a mistake; one so huge that he falls apart internally and almost doesn't know who he is anymore. The music becomes minor, contains a lot more chromaticism, and eventually leads to each instrument soloing on their own in a duel cadenza. He slowly comes back together, and finds his way again in a solid state, but everything is not quite the way it was, and it may never be.

Downward Circles

This piece, for marimba duet, is very special to me. I wrote this and dedicated it to Gordon Stout, who is not only a world famous marimbist and composer, but he is also my mentor and professor of percussion at Ithaca College. He has been a huge influence on my performing ability and proficiency on the marimba, and also has supported my work as a composer. For these reasons, I decided to write him this duet. I took inspiration from his own works, for solo marimba and his duets. The piece I kept coming back to was "Skylark Orange Circles". I implemented a lot of the fundamental musical structures and harmonic ideas that Gordon uses in his own music, but of course wrote it using my style. This piece consists of many complex rhythmic patterns that groove very well with the simple melody over top of it. The piece switches feels very quickly and moves to this almost dark and intense climax. What better duo partner for this piece than Gordon himself. Thank you very much for everything!