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LIVE

Classics –
The Digital Way



Featuring:

Atlantic Sinfonia Winds

Sunday, April 11, 2021 at 7:30 p.m.

Atlantic *Sinfonia* Atlantique

Richard Hornsby, David Scott – Clarinets

Jon Fisher, Olivier Huebscher – French horns

Yvonne Kershaw, Neil Bishop – Bassoons





The Atlantic Sinfonia Winds presents music for wind sextet – 2 clarinets, 2 French horns and 2 bassoons from both well-known classical music composers and more obscure ones. The great Beethoven is represented by his Sextet Op.71 which displays his melodic invention and his light-hearted side. W.A. Mozart's ability to create timeless melodies is evident in three arias from the opera 'Magic Flute' arranged by the bassoonist, Stumpf. And finally, a fresh and vibrant and sometimes flashy romp through the Bohemian countryside by the composer Druschetsky, a prolific writer of music for winds and an oboist himself.

Program

Parita in Eb

Georg Druschetzky

Adagio, Allegro
Adagio
Menuetto
Rondo

Sextet in Eb Op.71

Ludwig van Beethoven

Adagio, allegro
Adagio
Menuetto
Rondo

Three Arias from "Magic Flute"

W.A. Mozart,
arr. Stumpf

No. 1
No. 2
No. 6

About Atlantic Sinfonia Winds

The Atlantic Sinfonia is a flexible small classical ensemble that presents concerts as a string orchestra and a wind octet. Combined, they are the foundation of a 'classical' size orchestra. Since the early 2000s Atlantic Sinfonia has performed in all Atlantic Provinces presenting innovative and engaging programs for string and wind ensembles.

Atlantic Sinfonia Winds is a wind octet, a formation first made popular in the late 1700s amongst the courts of the Hapsburg Empire centered in Vienna. The music included specifically written works as well as a large amount of adaptations and arrangements of popular works of the day. Famous songs of the great composers of the day were re-worked for wind octet and even whole symphonies became standard repertoire. Wind groups such as this were popular all over Europe and even spread to North America, during this period.

Program Notes

This program for wind sextet brings together the music of well-known composers and one much more obscure. W.A. Mozart and L. van Beethoven are some of our most familiar names in classical music but Druschetzky and Stumpf are definitely not.

Georg Druschetzky was born in 1745 and lived until 1819. He came from the fertile region for producing wind

players and composers in Bohemia. His musical training led him to studying with the well-known oboist, Besozzi in Dresden and he subsequently took a position in a military band in the region. He moved to Vienna in 1783 and became involved in music life there leading to a position with Count Grassalkovič as Kappelmeister in Bratislava. He wrote much music for winds as well as concertos and symphonies. He also became a noted tympanist, writing a unique concerto for the instrument.

Beethoven started composing music for winds in the early 1790s, while in the employ of Maximilian Franz, the Archbishop and Elector of Cologne, in Bonn. The Elector was one of the nobility who had a wind ensemble (octet) in their court. So, he was well familiar with wind music before his arrival in Vienna in 1792. There, if not before he would have become knowledgeable about the various fine wind groups and players in the capitol, during that time and their music championed by the most revered composers such as Mozart. The Sextet, Op.71 was composed in the 1790s but did not have a performance until 1805 when it appears on a benefit concert for his friend and violinist, Ignaz Schuppanzigh.

The work is in the typical four movements of the day and uses the instruments (clarinets, horns and bassoons) in characteristic manners with a simplicity more common in Beethoven's earlier works. One could suggest that in melodic content as well as texture it reflects the great Mozart Octets of the previous decade.

W. A. Mozart, besides being one of the world's most well-known classical composers was an early proponent of wind music. He wrote landmark works for the Imperial Wind

Octet in Vienna and exploited the individual wind instruments through in a number of works of great merit including his famous Clarinet Quintet. As his influence spread, partially due to his ability to write simple, yet memorable melodies his music was adapted for many types of ensembles and a variety of settings. Local musicians and composers would arrange Mozart's music for consumption of their employers or the general public.

Little is known of the musician **Johann Stumpf** but he was probably born about 1740 and lived until around 1810. There seem to be at least 3 musicians during this time that bare similar names but it is most likely that it is the Johann Stumpf that was active in Frankfurt in the early 1800s who arranged these Mozart melodies from the 'Magic Flute'. He could also responsible for arranging Mozart's String Quintet No. 6, his last, for winds in 1791, the year of its original composition.

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