

UNIVERSAL STEREO

WALLINGFORD RIEGGER
ALVIN ETLER

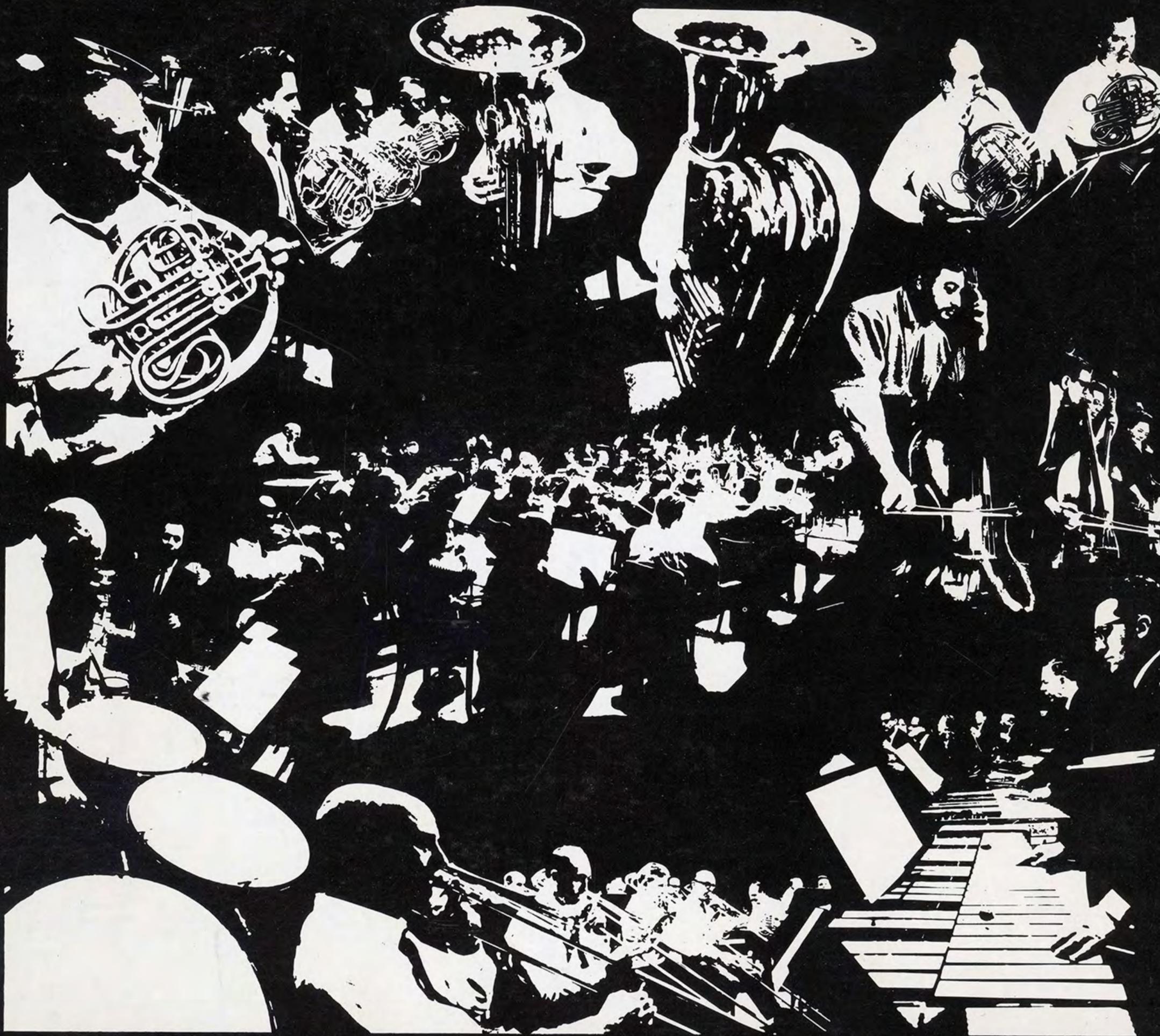
CRI
COMPOSERS
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MODERN MUSIC FOR

BRASS

MEMBERS OF THE ALUMNI OF THE NATIONAL ORCHESTRAL ASSOCIATION,
JOHN BARNETT, CONDUCTOR; AND THE AMERICAN BRASS QUINTET

This recording has been processed in Universal Stereo. For finest results it should be played on stereophonic equipment, but it may also be satisfactorily played on modern monaural machines.



WALLINGFORD RIEGGER: Music for Brass Choir, Op. 45
Movement for Two Trumpets, Trombone and Piano, Op. 66
Nonet for Brass, Op. 49

ALVIN ETLER: Concerto for Brass Quintet, String Orchestra and Percussion (1967)
"Sonic Sequence" for Brass Quintet (1967)

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JOHN BARNETT, CONDUCTOR; AND THE AMERICAN BRASS QUINTET

PRINTED IN THE U.S.A.

COMPOSERS RECORDINGS INC.
170 W. 74TH ST., NEW YORK, N.Y. 10023



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Each season, the orchestra studies approximately one hundred compositions, representing all periods of symphonic music, and including not only the standard repertoire but also little-known works from the past and the latest creations of contemporary composers. Thus, each player acquires complete familiarity with the symphonic classics plus the ability to learn new music quickly, even to perform complex works at sight. Added to this is experience of accompanying soloists of all types. In seasons past, the regular concerts have been supplemented with special concerto cycles, in which the participating soloists have included some of the greatest artists of our time.

All this training under fire equips the young instrumentalist to take his place in the professional world as a pre-seasoned member of the orchestral family. Conductors everywhere look to the National Orchestral Association whenever they are recruiting new players for their ensembles. Former members of the National Orchestral Association may be found in major symphony orchestras in the United States and Canada, as well as a few abroad, and many of them hold first-desk positions.

From 1930 to 1958, the Musical Director of the National Orchestral Association was the noted conductor, Leon Barzin. Looking for a successor to Mr. Barzin in 1958, the Association's directors appropriately chose an alumnus, John Barnett, as the new Musical Director.

A graduate of the Association's trumpet section and later of its conductor-training program, Mr. Barnett had earlier studied at the Manhattan School of Music. Later, he was awarded a conducting fellowship from the Philharmonic-Symphony Society of New York, which enabled him to study in Europe with Bruno Walter, Felix Weingartner, Nikolai Malko and Georges Enesco. His distinguished professional career has included engagements as Associate Music Director of the Los Angeles Philharmonic Orchestra, Music Director of the Hollywood Bowl and of the Pacific Coast Music Festival, Conductor of the Phoenix and San Diego Symphony Orchestras and, under a special grant from the U. S. State Department, founder and conductor of the bi-national Japan-America Philharmonic, which he took on a concert tour of Japan.

During the decade that he has been at the helm of the National Orchestral Association, he has maintained its high technical and artistic standards and has introduced on his programs a number of new and unfamiliar compositions—accomplishments which have earned critical acclaim for him and several educational awards for the Association. In addition to his work with the Association, Mr. Barnett serves as Music Director of the Philharmonic Symphony of Westchester and the Guild Opera Company of Los Angeles.



JOHN BARNETT

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Though he came from a musical family (his father was a violinist and his mother a pianist), and though he studied cello with Alwin Schroeder and theory with Percy Goetschius at the Institute of Musical Art (now the Juilliard School of Music) and continued his musical training at the Hochschule für Musik in Berlin, Riegger did not begin to compose seriously until he was thirty-five. Prior to that, he was active as a cellist and conductor in Germany and this country, and taught cello and theory at several American colleges, universities and music schools.

When he did decide to devote himself to composition, he was obliged, like so many other creative musicians, to support himself by other means. These included not only teaching but editing, proofreading, music copying, writing violin methods, and making several hundred choral arrangements. This was done under such pseudonyms as William Richards, Gerald Wilfring Gore, Leonard Gregg, Edwin Farrell, Walter Scotson, George Northrup and Edgar Long, some of them anagrams on his own name. As Wallingford Riegger, he composed four symphonies, a concerto for piano and wood winds, variations for piano and orchestra, many other works for orchestra and band, a quantity of chamber and choral music, some piano pieces, and a number of works for modern dance groups.

Riegger dabbled for a time in atonality, and much of his music is marked by dissonance; yet he never lost sight of the fact that what he was creating was meant not to show off to his fellow composers but to be listened to by an audience.

MUSIC FOR BRASS CHOIR, OP. 45, which was written in 1949, was aptly named, for each section plays together as a unit most of the time, there being very few individual solo passages. The scoring is very full: four horns (though the composer indicated that all horn parts should be doubled throughout the work), ten trumpets, ten trombones, two tubas, kettledrums and cymbals. The music begins *Andante* and alternates several times between this rather broad tempo and a more animated, more rhythmic *Più mosso*. Ultimately, it settles on the faster tempo, at which point the principal theme is announced by the first trumpet. The pace slackens again for a new episode introduced by the tubas and taken up by the trumpets. With the return of the *Più mosso* comes more new material from the trumpets, and before long we are moving at double speed. Eventually, however, the first trumpet theme returns at its original tempo and, after a few further fluctuations, the work ends slowly and quietly.

PERSONNEL

TRUMPETS
Isidor Blank
 Metropolitan Opera
Allan Dean
 N. Y. Brass Quintet
John Eckert
 American Brass Quintet
Frank Miller
 Free Lance Musician
Fred Mills
 N. Y. C. Opera
Richard San Filippo
 Little Orchestra Society
Garry Schauer
 Free Lance Musician
James Smith
 N. Y. Philharmonic
John Ware
 N. Y. Philharmonic
Robert Weber
 N. Y. C. Ballet

FRENCH HORNS
Edward Birdwell
 American Brass Quintet
John Carabella
 N. Y. Philharmonic
Richard Happe
 N. Y. C. Opera
Paul Ingraham
 N. Y. Brass Quintet
A. Robert Johnson
 N. Y. Philharmonic
Lester Salomon
 American Symphony

Morris Secon
 Clarion Concerts
Arthur Sussman
 Metropolitan Opera

TROMBONES
James Biddlecome
 N. Y. C. Opera
Robert Biddlecome
 American Brass Quintet
Per Brevig
 American Symphony
John Clark
 Metropolitan Opera
Arnold Fromme
 American Brass Quintet
Edward Herman
 N. Y. Philharmonic
Allen Ostrander
 N. Y. Philharmonic
Charles Small
 ABC Staff
Robert Wright
 N. Y. C. Opera

TUBAS
Donald Butterfield
 Radio City Music Hall
Herbert Wechselblatt
 Metropolitan Opera

TIMPANI
Morris Goldenberg
 Juilliard Faculty

modern music

Riegger composed **MOVEMENT FOR TWO TRUMPETS, TROMBONE AND PIANO, OP. 66**, in 1960, the year before his death. It was commissioned by the Juilliard School of Music, an appropriate gesture, since Riegger had been in the first graduating class of the institution's immediate ancestor, the Institute of Musical Art. The work is dedicated to William Schuman, who was President of Juilliard at the time.

This basically tonal work is short and lively with a good deal of syncopation. The end sections are concerned mainly with a two-note motive and a running passage in triplets; The brief middle section introduces some new but related material that is treated contrapuntally. Throughout the composition, each participating instrument enjoys an independent career; which is to say that the piano never acts as an accompanist but always as an active competitor in setting forth the musical material.

PERSONNEL

Allan Dean, John Eckert, trumpets
Robert Biddlecome, trombone; **Jascha Zayde**, piano

The **NONET, OP. 49**, dates from 1951. Though it is based on a tone row of G, A, G-flat, F, E-flat, E, B-flat, B, C, C-sharp, D, A flat, the work is not bound by serial procedures. It is however, dominated by a thematic fragment heard at the very opening. Its single movement begins with an introductory *Lento*, which leads to the main section, *Allegro*. Near the end, there is a recurrence of the *Lento*, but the music ends with a final statement, *Allegro*. The composition which is scored for two horns, three trumpets, three trombones and tuba, is marked throughout by strong rhythmic impulses. Sometimes the music is contrapuntal, and sometimes there are large blocks of dissonant chords. For the most part, the instruments are treated in homogeneous groups, and there is an unusual amount of intricate solo work for the tuba.

PERSONNEL

Robert Biddlecome Trombone	Arnold Fromme Trombone
Edward R. Birdwell French Horn	Edward Herman Trombone
Donald Butterfield Tuba	Paul W. Ingraham French Horn
Allan Dean Trumpet	John R. Ware Trumpet
John W. Eckert Trumpet	

ALVIN ETLER was born in Battle Creek, Iowa in 1913 and has been composing since the middle 1930's. He completed the first phase of his musical training at Western Reserve University in Cleveland, subsequently playing oboe in the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra. The success of his earlier compositions, as evidenced by performances at major contemporary music festivals and two Guggenheim Fellowships, led to abandonment of his oboe-playing career, and to further study at Yale under Paul Hindemith. There were years of teaching at Yale, Cornell, the University of Illinois, and finally a professorship at Smith College—in the course of which, Mr. Etlar tells us, he worked "insistently to call forth the best in himself as a composer, avidly noting all current trends, occasionally creating one or two of my own."

for brass

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Among the more than two dozen works in the Etlar catalogue, nearly half call upon wind instruments in either solo or ensemble capacity; perhaps the most successful of Mr. Etlar's recent scores has been the CONCERTO FOR WIND QUINTET AND ORCHESTRA, which was premiered by the New York Philharmonic in 1960 and subsequently recorded by the Louisville Orchestra (LOU 651).

The CONCERTO FOR BRASS QUINTET, STRING ORCHESTRA AND PERCUSSION was commissioned by the American Brass Quintet with a grant from the Martha Baird Rockefeller Fund for Music, Inc., and was completed at Amherst, Massachusetts in March, 1967. The composer has supplied the following notes:

"The work seeks to exploit the Brass Quintet as a virtuoso instrument against a contrasting background. There is, however, a parallel aim in the form of a dialogue or contest between the quintet and all or part of the conflicting orchestral forces. There are times when the entire ensemble combines to form an integrated orchestral fabric, as well as other times when a single brass instrument, or pair of instruments, is singled out. No effort is made to display a compendium of all the devices of which the instruments are capable—only those which serve the communicable musical purposes embodied in the work.

"The forms that structure each of the movements are extremely simple. The first and last movements each begin with an announcement of two or three concise ideas. These are in turn altered in varying degrees, expanded, contracted, intensified, relaxed, contrasted or merged in accordance with the over-all predetermined shape and the projected impact. The second movement, in slow tempo, is a succession of extended phrases. The original proposal, made by the muted trombones, is in turn examined by the horn, the muted trumpets, muted trombones and trumpets together, the whole quintet, and finally recedes to the muted trombones. At times there are interstitial commentaries by the strings, though the percussion instruments are used very little in this movement."

The CONCERTO is scored for two trumpets, French horn, tenor trombone, and bass trombone with both F and E extensions, the full complement of strings, and in the percussion section of five players, four bongo drums, two timbales, three tom toms, snare drum, three timpani, tambourine, suspended cymbal, sizzle cymbal, glockenspiel, vibraphone, three brake drums, xylophone, four wood blocks, five temple bells, and claves. The three movements, are to be played with little or no pause between them.

PERSONNEL

STRINGS

VIOLINS
Fred Baron
 Little Orchestra Society
Lillian Bertolino
 Radio City Music Hall
Cesar Borgia
 Free Lance Musician
Peter Buonconsiglio
 Teachers College Faculty,
 Columbia University
Gisella Ehrenworth
 American Symphony
Marcella Eisenberg
 Brooklyn Philharmonic
Martin Eshelman
 N. Y. Philharmonic
Leon Goldstein
 N. Y. C. Ballet
Paul Grotzky
 American Symphony
Samuel Gurkin
 Harkness Ballet
Lynn Hartman
 Festival Orchestra
Ralph Hollander
 American Symphony
Leon Kaplan
 Metropolitan Opera
Meyer Katz
 American Symphony
***Ray Kunicki**
 Little Orchestra Society
Harry Melnikoff
 Free Lance Musician
Adelaide Moss
 Little Orchestra Society
William Nowinski
 N. Y. Philharmonic
Marilyn Riley
 American National Opera
***Jerome Rosen**
 Formerly Cleveland
 Symphony
Murray Schnee
 N. Y. C. Ballet
Joseph Schor
 Windham College Faculty
Esther Schure
 New Jersey Symphony
Joseph Siegelman
 N. Y. C. Ballet
Louis Simon
 Bronx Community College
 Faculty
Elisha Tuttle
 Free Lance Musician
Dominic Vaz
 N. Y. C. Ballet
VIOLAS
Robert Benjamin
 American Ballet Theater
Melvin Berger
 String Supervisor
 School System
Beatrice Brown
 Conductor,
 Scranton Philharmonic
Selwart Clarke
 N. Y. C. Ballet
Sam DiPiazza
 Radio City Music Hall
Harold Elitzik
 Metropolitan Opera
Sam Farber
 Radio City Music Hall
Edward Gerber
 Conductor,
 Philharmonic of N. Y.
***Arthur Granick**
 N. Y. C. Opera
Robert Weinrebe
 N. Y. Philharmonic

CELLOS

Lorin Bernsohn
 N. Y. Philharmonic
***Maurice Bialkin**
 NBC Staff
Avron Coleman
 Bach Aria Group
Sidney Edwards
 Bach Aria Group
George Feher
 N. Y. Philharmonic
Martin Lake
 Symphony of the New World
Sam Reiner
 American Opera Society
Leo Rosansky
 Free Lance Musician

BASSES

James Candido
 N. Y. Philharmonic
Lucille Dixon
 Symphony of the New World
Claude Feldman
 American Symphony
Mitchell May
 Boston Opera
Jesse Paul Miller
 Free Lance Musician
Orin O'Brien
 N. Y. Philharmonic
June Rotenberg
 American Ballet Theater
***David Walter**
 Princeton Chamber
 Orchestra

TIMPANI

Morris Goldenberg
 Juilliard Faculty

PERCUSSION

Gilbert Breines
 Formerly Chicago Symphony
Arnold Goldberg
 N. Y. C. Ballet
Ronald Gould
 N. Y. C. Ballet
Brad Spinney
 Bell Telephone Hour
Howard Hirsch
 Formerly Buffalo Symphony

**Concertmaster
 *Section leader

SONIC SEQUENCE was expressly composed for inclusion on the enclosed record, and was completed in late October 1967. The work is dedicated to the American Brass Quintet. The piece is quite simply formed. There are solos for the French Horn at the beginning and at the end, as well as a third one which occupies the central portion. The patterns of sound that separate not only these solos but some of the phrases thereof as well all emanate from various relationships between the four tones—F, E flat, E and F sharp—with which the horn opens the work. While the over-all tempo remains constant at 54 quarter notes per minute, a limited variety of implied metric units suggests an occasional change of pace.

—Notes by Paul Affelder

THE AMERICAN BRASS QUINTET recently returned from a concert tour of Europe. Their London concert was hailed as "a unique experience," and the Daily Telegraph said, "It is quite impossible to overpraise (their) playing." In Paris, Le Figaro called them "Brilliant, an extremely musical group" and the Amsterdam press found them, "a subtle virtuoso ensemble" and "an unforeseen sensation." The group participated in three European music festivals—The Spoleto Festival of Two Worlds (Italy), The Llandaff Festival (Wales) and the Zagreb International Contemporary Music Festival (Yugoslavia).

The American Brass Quintet was organized in 1957, and made its New York concert debut in 1960. It has since appeared in more than thirty New York recitals, on radio and television and on annual tours across the United States and Canada. Inspired by the rebirth of the use of brass in chamber music, the members have pioneered in research on early music performance practices and have published several modern editions of pre-Bach works for brass. They also maintain a strong interest in contemporary composition, performing and commissioning new works. Alvin Etlar's CONCERTO and his SONIC SEQUENCE were composed for this quintet.

Cover art: Alan Gelman/Kingman

Back cover photographs by Ross Photos.

Cover photograph courtesy of STEELWAYS, publication of the American Iron and Steel Institute.



THE AMERICAN BRASS QUINTET

Gerard Schwarz
 Trumpet

Edward R. Birdwell
 French Horn

Robert Biddlecome
 Trombone

John W. Eckert
 Trumpet

Arnold Fromme
 Trombone

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PERSONNEL

TRUMPETS

Isidor Blank

Metropolitan Opera

Allan Dean

N. Y. Brass Quintet

John Ecker

American Brass Quintet

Frank Miller

Free Lance Musician

Fred Mills

N. Y. C. Opera

Richard San Filippo

Litle Orchestra Society

Garry Schauer

Free Lance Musician

James Smith

N. Y. Philharmonic

John Ware

N. Y. Philharmonic

Robert Weber

N. Y. C. Ballet

FRENCH HORNS

Edward Birdwell

American Brass Quintet

John Carabella

N. Y. Philharmonic

Richard Happe

N. Y. C. Opera

Paul Ingraham

N.Y. Brass Quintet

A. Robert Johnson

N. Y. Philharmonic

Lester Salomon

American Symphony

Morris Secon

Clarion Concerts

Arthur Sussman

Metropolitan Opera

TROMBONES

James Biddlecome

N. Y. Brass Quintet

Robert Biddlecome

American Brass Quintet

Per Brevig

American Symphony

John Clark

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Arnold Fromme

American Brass Quintet

Edward Herman

N. Y. Philharmonic

Allen Ostrander

N. Y. Philharmonic

Charles Small

ABC Staff

Robert Wright

N. Y. C. Opera

TUBAS

Donald Butterfield

Radio City Music Hall

Herbert Wechselblatt

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TIMPANI

Morris Goldenberg

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PERSONNEL

Allan Dean, John Eckert, trumpets

Robert Biddlecome, trombone; **Jascha Zayde**, piano

The NONET, OP. 49, dates from 1951. Though it is based on a tone row of G, A, G-flat, F, E-flat, E, B-flat, B, C, C-sharp, D, A flat, the work is not bound by serial procedures. It is however, dominated by a thematic fragment heard at the very opening. Its single movement begins with an introductory Lento, which leads to the main section, Allegro. Near the end, there is a recurrence of the Lento, but the music ends with a final statement, Allegro. The composition which is scored for two horns, three trumpets, three trombones and tuba, is marked throughout by strong rhythmic impulses. Sometimes the music is contrapuntal, and sometimes there are large blocks of dissonant chords. For the most part, the instruments are treated in homogeneous groups, and there is an unusual amount of intricate solo work for the tuba.

PERSONNEL

Robert Biddlecome

Trombone

Edward R. Birdwell

French Horn

Donald Butterfield

Tuba

Allan Dean

Trumpet

John W. Eckert

Trumpet

Arnold Fromme

Trombone

Edward Herman

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Trumpet

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STRINGS

VIOLINS

Fred Baron

Little Orchestra Society

Lillian Bertolino

Radio City Music Hall

Cesar Borgia

Free Lance Musician

Peter Buonconsiglio

Teachers College Faculty,

Columbia University

Gisella Ehrenworth

American Symphony

Marcella Eisenberg

Brooklyn Philharmonic

Martin Eshelman

N. Y. Philharmonic

Leon Goldstein

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Leon Kaplan

Metropolitan Opera

Meyer Katz

American Symphony :

Ray Kunicki

Little Orchestra Society

Harry Melnikoff

Free Lance Musician

Adelaide Moss

Little Orchestra Society

William Nowinski

N. Y. Philharmonic

Marilyn Riley

American National Opera

****Jerome Rosen**

Formerly Cleveland Symphony

Murray Schnee

N. Y. C. Ballet

Joseph Schor

Windham College Faculty

Esther Schure

New Jersey Symphony

Joseph Siegelman

N. Y. C. Ballet

Louis Simon

Bronx Community College Faculty

Elisha Tuttle

Free Lance Musician

Dominic Vaz

N. Y. C. Ballet

VIOLAS

Robert Benjamin

American Ballet Theater

Melvin Berger

String Supervisor

School System

Beatrice Brown

Conductor,

Scranton Philharmonic

Selwart Clarke

N. Y. C. Ballet

Sam DiPiazza

Radio City Music Hall

Harold Elitzik

Metropolitan Opera

Sam Farber

Radio City Music Hall

Edward GerberConductor, Philharmonic of N. Y. ***Arthur****Granick**

N. Y. C. Opera

Robert Weinrebe

N. Y. Philharmonic

CELLOS

Lorin Bernsohn

N. Y. Philharmonic

*Maurice Bialkin

NBC Staff

Avron Coleman

Bach Aria Group

Sidney Edwards

Bach Aria Group

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Symphony of the New World

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American Opera Society

Leo Rosansky

Free Lance Musician

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James Candido

N. Y. Philharmonic

Lucille Dixon

Symphony of the New World

Claude Feldman

American Symphony

Mitchell May

Boston Opera

Jesse Paul Miller

Free Lance Musician

Orin O'Brien

June Rotenberg

American Ballet Theater

***David Walter**

Princeton Chamber Orchestra

TIMPANI

Morris Goldenberg

Julliard Faculty

PERCUSSION

Gilbert Breines

Formerly Chicago Symphony

Arnold Goldberg

N.Y.C Ballet

Ronald Gould

N. Y. C. Ballet

Brad Spinney

Bell Telephone Hour

Howard Hirsch

Formerly Buffalo Symphony

**Concertmaster

*Section Leader

THE AMERICAN BRASS QUINTET

Gerard Schwarz

Trumpet

Edward R. Birdwell

French Horn

Robert Biddlecome

Trombone

John W. Eckert

Trumpet

Arnold Fromme

Trombone

SONIC SEQUENCE was expressly composed for inclusion on the enclosed record, and was completed in late October 1967. The work is dedicated to the American Brass Quintet. The piece is quite simply formed. There are solos for the French Horn at the beginning and at the end, as well as a third one which occupies the central portion. The patterns of sound that separate not only these solos but some of the phrases thereof as well all emanate from various relationships between the four tones—F, E flat, E, and F sharp—with which the horn opens the work. While the over-all tempo remains constant at 54 quarter notes per minute, a limited variety of implied metric units suggests an occasional change of pace.

—Notes by Paul Affelder

THE AMERICAN BRASS QUINTET recently returned from a concert tour of Europe. Their London concert was hailed as "a unique experience," and the Daily Telegraph said, "It is quite impossible to overpraise (their) playing." In Paris, Le Figaro called them "Brilliant, an extremely musical group" and the Amsterdam press found them, "a subtle virtuoso ensemble" and "an unforeseen sensation." The group participated in three European music festivals—The Spoleto Festival of Two Worlds (Italy), The Llandaff Festival (Wales) and the Zagreb International Contemporary Music Festival (Yugoslavia).

The American Brass Quintet was organized in 1957, and made its New York concert debut in 1960. It has since appeared in more than thirty New York recitals, on radio and television and on annual tours across the United States and Canada. Inspired by the rebirth of the use of brass in chamber music, the members have pioneered in research on early music performance practices and have published several modern editions of pre-Bach works for brass. They also maintain a strong interest in contemporary composition, performing and commissioning new works. Alvin Etler's **CONCERTO** and his **SONIC SEQUENCE** were composed for this quintet.

(Original liner notes from CRI LP jacket)