

ENCORE PROGRAM NOTES

WATER REFLECTIONS - Yukiko Nishimura *(notes from the composer)*

A peaceful vision of light playing on gently rippling waves. Those same images that reflect on the water are reflected between the different sections of the ensemble. The result is a pleasant and unique musical dialogue of delicate sounds and textures.

I like to see images that reflect on the water. In this piece you will find the same situation between the melodies in the different parts.

FALLING WATER – Yukiko Nishimura *(notes from the composer)*

Describing the playful cascading of a waterfall, this lighthearted 6/8 work offers multiple opportunities to develop both style and technique. Alternating between energetic ostinatos and lyrical phrases in string-friendly D major, players will work on phrasing, articulations, and dynamics, with just a few extended finger patterns.

THE FOUR SEASONS – Antonio Vivaldi

L'Autunno (Autumn)

Opus 8, No. 3, in F Major

I. Allegro--

The peasants celebrate with dance and song,
The joy of a rich harvest.
And, full of Bacchus's liquor,
They finish their celebration with sleep.

II. Adagio molto--

Each peasant ceases his dance and song.
The mild air gives pleasure,
And the season invites many
To enjoy a sweet slumber.

III. Allegro--

The hunters, at the break of dawn, go to the hunt.
With horns, guns, and dogs they are off,
The beast flees, and they follow its trail.
Already fearful and exhausted by the great noise,
Of guns and dogs, and wounded,
The exhausted beast tries to flee, but dies.

L'Inverno (Winter)

Opus 8, No. 4, in F minor

I. Allegro non molto--

Frozen and trembling in the icy snow,
In the severe blast of the horrible wind,
As we run, we constantly stamp our feet,
And our teeth chatter in the cold.

II. Largo--

To spend happy and quiet days near the fire,
While, outside, the rain soaks hundreds.

III. Allegro--

We walk on the ice with slow steps,
And tread carefully, for fear of falling.
Symphony, If we go quickly, we slip and fall to the ground.
Again we run on the ice,
Until it cracks and opens.
We hear, from closed doors,
Sirocco, Boreas, and all the winds in battle.
This is winter, but it brings joy.

About the Composers



Yukiko Nishimura, Composer/Pianist, was born in Japan in 1967. Yukiko Nishimura graduated from Tokyo National University of Fine Arts and Music in 1990.

In 1991, she began private study with Dr. Alfred Reed at the University of Miami School of Music and in 1993 she continued her studies with Dr. Richard Danielpour at Manhattan School of Music.

Among her honors, are the special mention at the 15th and 26th International Competition for Original Composition for band in Corciano, Italy, the 6th Aoyama Award, and the second prize at the concerto competition at University of Miami as a pianist.

Since 1996, she has given concerts consisting entirely of her own music in Japan.

In 2003, she gave a solo piano recital at New York Public Library, Donnell Library Center.

Yukiko Nishimura has received numerous commissions and has composed for piano, solo marimba and marimba with other instruments (including English horn, saxophone, and trumpet), chamber music, and music for string instruments and orchestra. She has also been active as a pianist and an arranger. She has studied composition with Teruyuki Noda, Atsutada Otaka, Yuzuru Shimaoka, Dr. Alfred Reed, Dr. Richard Danielpour, and Giampaolo Bracali. She studied piano with Ivan Davis and Dr. Sara Davis Buechner.



Antonio Lucio Vivaldi was born March 4, 1678 in Venice, Italy and died on July 28, 1741 in Vienna, Austria.

During his life, learned how to play the violin from his father, Giovanni Battista Vivaldi. Vivaldi entered the priesthood studies at the age of 15. Interestingly, Vivaldi was known as the Red Priest due to his red hair. Due to health issues related to breathing, Vivaldi removed himself from the priesthood not long after his ordination.

From the start of his music career, he was awarded the position master of violin at the Ospedale della Pieta (Devout Hospital of Mercy) in Venice. The institution offered training for orphans particularly boys in trade and girls in the musical arts. Students who achieved a high level of performance joined an internationally recognized orchestra that performed many of Vivaldi's works.

During his stay in Mantua between 1717 and 1721, he wrote the Four Seasons. The work consists of four concerti (Spring, Summer, Autumn, Winter). Each concerto has three movements with a fast-slow-fast order to each movement.

Famous Quote: "There are no words, there is only music there."