



Program Notes

When I'm Sixty-FourPaul McCartney, Arr. Ramon Ricker

One of his first songs, Paul McCartney wrote “When I’m Sixty-Four” at age 16. In their early days, The Beatles kept this song in reserve to play acoustically in West End clubs when the power went out. Originally recorded in 1966.

The Entertainer.....Scott Joplin, Arr. James “Red” McLeod

Originally published in 1902 as “a ragtime two step” accompaniment to that style of dance which was popular until about 1911. “The Entertainer” and the ragtime style saw a revival in 1970 in response to the popularity of the movie “The Sting” and its ragtime musical score. Even though the movie was set in the 1930’s, the score featured ragtime tunes that had been out of fashion for 20 years by then.

You’ve got a Friend in Me (Toy Story Theme) ..Randy Newman, Arr. Philippe Marillia

Randy Newman was hired to write the score for Toy Story after Disney decided not to make it a musical. Toy Story was the first animated film Randy Newman scored. You’ve Got a Friend in Me lives on as the theme to both sequels—pretty good for a song written in a single day.

Philippe Marillia is a sax player, drummer, and arranger who lives and works in Magny les Hameaux near Paris.

DreamersIlio Volante

Ilio Volante is a modern Italian saxophonist and composer who has written some 120 original works for saxophone quartets and other ensembles that are played around the world. (If I could read Italian, I’d tell you more about him). Dreamers combines a modern lyrical melody with a recurring Tom-and-Jerry cartoon-esque unison cadenza and solo sections for alto and tenor saxes. A very unique piece.

Banana Rag.....Christian Daguet

Christian Daguet is a modern French musician and composer who manages to capture both the American style and spirit of a ragtime piece and the French enthusiasm for the saxophone in Banana Rag.

Miniature Jazz Suite #1 Lennie Niehaus

Lennie Niehaus is world renowned for his skill at composing and arranging jazz tunes for big bands and musical scores. He's also an accomplished professional alto sax player, and his understand of sax voicing and skills as a composer and arranger come together in his Jazz Suites for Saxophone (we're play the first of three so far).

“Little” Fugue in G MinorJ.S. Bach

Written sometime between 1703 and 1707, Bach's Fugue in G Minor was originally written for Organ (and has since been scored for everything from two guitars to a full orchestral arrangement by Stokowski). In rehearsing the piece for saxophone quartet, it's difficult to imagine that an organist plays your part with one hand, while playing the other parts with his or her other hand and feet . . .

Menuetto.....F. P. Schubert, Dishinger

A menuetto is just another name for a “minuet,” a little French dance. Bach, Handel, Lully . . . all the 17th Century composers wrote them . . . this one is by Schubert.

Manzanillo Mambo Andrew Robertson

Andrew Robertson is an Australian saxophonist, recording artist, composer, arranger who is best known in Australia, but has also recorded or arranged for US artists including Bobby Shew, Steely Dan, and played in a number of top Broadway musicals. Manzanillo Mambo, published in 2007, is named after the famous beach in Costa Rica on the Caribbean where it sounds like Mr. Robinson spent some time . . .

Bohemian Rhapsody Freddie Mercury, Arr. Marillio

Queen made the original recording of Bohemian Rhapsody over a six week period including three weeks of rehearsals and three weeks of recording each separate section in five different studios in August and September of 1975, making it the most expensive music single ever recorded. We play it in about 6 minutes for free!

Bill Bailey Hughie Cannon, Arr. Christensen

A traditional Dixieland jazz tune composed, like The Entertainer, in 1902 and covered by everyone from Louis Armstrong to Harry Connick, Jr. Nobody knows exactly why Bill Bailey won't come home.