



Young
Audiences
Arts for
Learning

Oregon & SW Washington

PROGRAM GUIDE

This information is intended to prepare teachers and students for a Young Audiences performance.

CON GRAZIA WIND QUINTET

Kaleidoscope of Sound

Woodwind World Tour

ABOUT THE PERFORMANCES

Kaleidoscope of Sound

This program, which fosters teamwork and listening skills, is designed as an introduction to the instruments of the wind quintet, and to classical music in general. The repertoire includes “Elephant March” from the Disney Movie *The Jungle Book* and other familiar selections such as “Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star” to introduce each instrument, “Sorcerer’s Apprentice”, “A Frog Went A-Courtin”, and others. Schools may choose either the popular narrated story “Peter & the Wolf” arranged for quintet, or our “Homage to Beatrix Potter” with six little tunes describing the whimsical characters of Peter Rabbit, ducks, frogs and Two Bad Mice!

Woodwind World Tour

This musical journey spans the continents of Europe, Africa and Asia, winds its way through South America and ends up back in the United States. At each tour stop the musicians talk about points of interest about each destination from famous historical figures to cuisine and from the Impressionism of France’s representative composer Ibert, the exciting rhythms of Cuba, and traditional songs from Japan to the ragtime of Scott Joplin.

Both performances may be followed by one or more instrumental sectional workshops for student wind and brass players.

ABOUT THE COMPANY

The **Con Grazia Wind Quintet** was formed in 1995 by wind musicians of the Oregon Chamber Players and maintains an active performance schedule throughout the Northwest. The quintet is comprised of professional musicians in the Portland/Vancouver area with strong music education backgrounds, all of whom who have over 15 years of performing and teaching experience and regularly coach the student musicians of the Junior Symphony of Vancouver.

ABOUT THE ART FORM

The **Con Grazia Wind Quintet** is a standard wind quintet combining the timbres of the flute, oboe, clarinet, bassoon and French horn. All of these instruments generate sound by a vibrating column of air. The wind quintet evolved in Germany in the early 1800’s with composer Anton Reicha as the ‘Father’ of wind quintet writing. Chamber music was originally intended for small audiences and historically enjoyed as a recreation for family gatherings, while today a classical chamber group may perform for larger audiences in a formal setting. The quintet performs music from the Baroque through Contemporary time periods with a wide diversity – everything from Bach to Joplin with narrated musical stories plus all types of dances and styles!

©2008-2009

Young Audiences 1220 SW Morrison, Suite 900 Portland, OR 97205-2228
Phone (503) 225-5900 (360) 693-1829 FAX (503) 225-0953 youngaudiences@ya-or.org

VOCABULARY

Flute: A woodwind instrument in the form of a straight pipe held horizontally and played through a mouth-hole (similar to blowing across a bottle). Flutes were originally made of wood although they are generally now made of silver. The flute has a range of 3 octaves.

Oboe: A woodwind instrument consisting of a conical pipe about 2 feet long with a double-reed. The name derives from the French *hautbois*, meaning high-wood. This is the instrument that provides the 'tuning A' for the orchestra.

Clarinet: A woodwind instrument consisting of an end-blown cylindrical pipe made of wood, ebonite, or sometimes plastic or metal. This instrument has a single reed affixed to a mouthpiece, and may be either in the more common key of Bb, or in A.

Bassoon: Another double-reed instrument with a conical bore known as the bass of the double-reed family (corresponding to the cello in the string family). This instrument is pitched two octaves below the oboe and has a curved bocal that attaches the reed to the instrument.

French Horn: An orchestral brass instrument called French horn to distinguish it from the English horn (an instrument in the oboe family) consisting of a narrow conical tube 12 ft. long wound twice in a circle with a large, flaring bell and detachable funnel-shaped mouthpiece one would 'buzz' into to create a sound. Pitches are produced by operating 3 valves and changing the mouth (or embouchure).

Quintet: A piece for five performers; also can refer to a group of five performers.

Octave: An 8 note (tone) distance. Sing the scale 'do, re, mi, fa, so, la, ti, do'. The 'do' on either end of that scale is an octave.

Classical: Classical music or style usually means everything outside of "popular" music that contains strings and/or wind and brass instruments, sometimes with vocalists and orchestral percussion. Also, in musical terminology it refers to a specific time period of music (1750-1825). The main musical representatives of this time were Haydn, Mozart and the early works of Beethoven.

Rhythm: Rhythm may be broadly defined as everything pertaining to the duration (long, short) of musical sounds.

Tempo: The rate or speed in which a composition is played. Markings are in Italian and proceed from slow (*largo, adagio*) to medium (*andante, moderato*) to fast (*allegro, vivace, presto*).

Ensemble: A group of musicians who perform together. The term may also be used to describe the precision with which a group plays together.

Timbre (pronounced *Tamber*)/Color: The characteristic quality of sound that distinguishes one voice or musical instrument from another.

Reed: A thin strip of cane that, when set into vibration, produces sound. May be placed on a mouthpiece or made into a double-reed.

Wind Instruments: Any instrument that generates sound by a vibrating column of air.