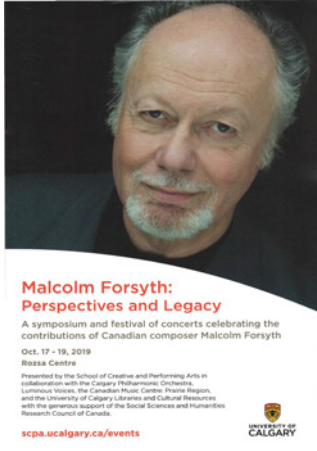


Winter, 2019

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Malcolm Forsyth Symposium



A Symposium on the composer Malcolm Forsyth and his work had been in the planning stages for a number of years with this event finally taking place this past October at the University of Calgary. The Symposium included a number of performances of a variety of his works which included solo, chamber and orchestra by friends, colleagues and students of the University. As well, his daughter Amanda performed

the cello concerto written for her by her father, *Electra Rising*, along with the Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra under conductor Hans Graf for two performances October 18, 19, 2019 at Jack Singer Concert Hall, the venue where it was premiered in 1995 with Mario Bernardi as the conductor.

Music Historian and Dean of Fine Arts at the University of Lethbridge Mary Ingrham, as well as composer, teacher and former student of Dr. Forsyth, Robert Rival, were Plenary Speakers. Other distinguished guests, including Elaine Keillor, Edward Jurkowski, Ryan McClelland, Evan Jones, Murray Dineed, Geoffrey Wilson, Leonard Ratzlaff and Allan Gordon Bell, gave a variety of talks on works and aspects of the composer's music. There were two Roundtables, one focusing on the Music and the other on Dr. Forsyth as Composer, which provided insight into other aspects of him and his work.

The documentary by award-winning film maker, Theresa Wynnyk, *Conquering Beauty: The Life and Music of Malcolm Forsyth* was shown. This documentary is a "moving portrait of a complicated artist and his important musical legacy."

As part of this event, a book was launched called *Reflections on Malcolm Forsyth*, published by the University of Alberta Press. It is available for sale from them in paperback or PDF format. This book is a collection of essays looking at him as a composer, educator, husband, father, written by friends, colleagues, scholars and family members. In his review of the book, Troy Ducharme, Don Wright Faculty of Music, Western University said:

Multiple JUNO Award-winner Malcolm Forsyth is one of Canada's most performed, celebrated, and inspirational composers. His works were commissioned by iconic Canadian performers, who took them into their repertoires to perform across the country and internationally. His influence continues to be felt through the prominence and success of his former composition students. Reflections on Malcolm Forsyth provides an engaging introduction to and appraisal of his life, works, and career.

There are plans to make the Sessions from the Symposium available in written and video form. The sessions were taped so that others may benefit and learn from all the work that was put into this event about Dr. Malcolm Forsyth, who was a winner of 3 Junos for Best Classical Work. He died in July, 2011.

The Symposium was attended by colleagues, the composer's publisher Counterpoint Music Library Services, former students, students of the University of Calgary, members of the public, as well as representatives from the Canadian Music Centre Prairie Region, who sponsored some events.

New Work by Eric Robertson in Celebration of the 40th Anniversary of the Festival of the Sound

This past summer season, the Festival of the Sound in Parry Sound, Ontario, celebrated their 40th Anniversary. This Festival is headed by clarinetist James Campbell, for the past 35 of their 40 years. Parry Sound is a small community beside Georgian Bay, which each summer welcomes many visitors and cottagers. They hold a variety of concerts over a few weeks in summer each year, now at the lovely Charles W. Stockey Centre for the Performing Arts, situated in a beautiful spot beside the water.

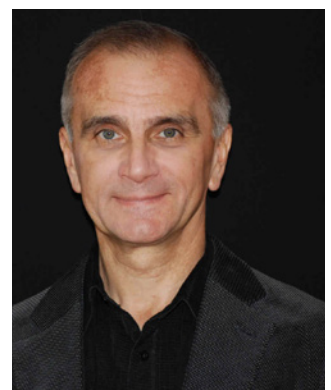


As part of this celebration, composer Eric Robertson and librettist Gary Michael Dault, created a work called *The Sound: A Musical Evocation of Georgian Bay*, for choir, narrator and ensemble. The Elmer Iseler Singers under Lydia Adams performed this new work with Colin Fox as narrator. The concert was repeated in Toronto at the end of September at the Iseler Singers' first concert of the Fall season. This was written as a double 40th Anniversary celebration as the Elmer Isler Singers are also 40 years old.

The Toronto repeat concert was reviewed online in Toronto Concert Reviews by David Richards who said: "... *The movements, entitled Water Music, The Rock, The Trees, Clouds and Air were each stunning in the musical language and in the text which was in part dramatically spoken by the deep voice of Colin Fox. I loved Dault's metaphors in such phrases as, "Altogether the land is a great vase holding its bouquet of trees"*.

Gary Kulesha - Streets of Fire & New Oboe Concerto

Streets of Fire is Gary Kulesha's new concerto for two trombones and wind orchestra, written for and premiered by Gordon Wolfe and Vanessa Fralick, both of the Toronto Symphony Orchestra, at the International Trombone Festival in Muncie, IN on July 11, 2019. It will be performed again on February 6, 2020 with the University of Toronto Wind Symphony, in MacMillan Theatre, University of Toronto.



We will be releasing the trombone duet and piano reduction for sale early in 2020 of *Streets of Fire*. This was well received at the Trombone Festival.

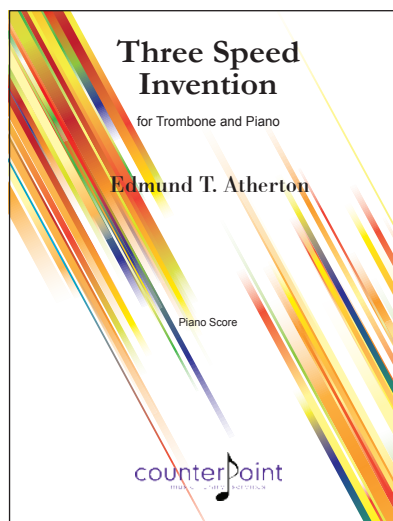
Also coming up is a new *Oboe Concerto* commissioned for oboist Bede Hanley with the Auckland Philharmonia in New Zealand, to be premiered October 22, 2020 at Auckland Town Hall, conducted by Clemens Schuld. This will be subsequently performed in Canada by the Victoria and Saskatoon Symphonies.



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OR, support your local music store and order it through them.



Three-Speed Invention

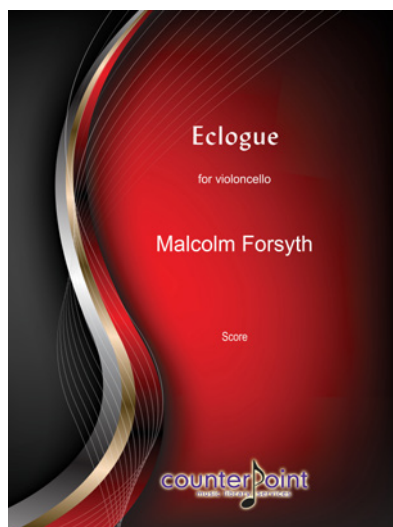
by Edmund T. Atherton
B.C. composer
Edmund Atherton's wife Mary is a trombonist and this work was written for her.

In the words of the composer, "Think of a three-speed bicycle and a trombone player all wrapped up in one package and you have the inspiration for this piece."



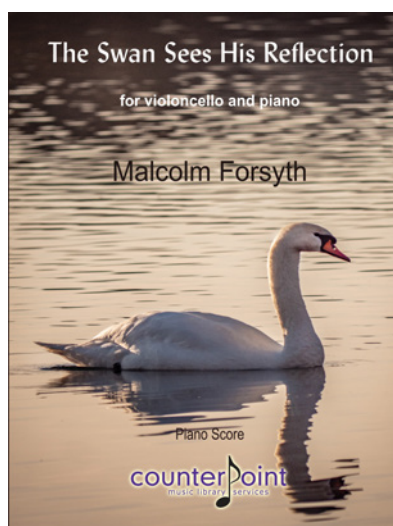
Novum Spatium (A New Space)

by Malcolm Forsyth
Written for the opening of Jack Singer Concert Hall in Calgary, Alberta in 1985, it is for 3 brass quartets spatially placed around the Hall - 4 trumpets, 4 horns and 4 trombones. This work was given a rare performance at the recent Forsyth Symposium held at the University of Calgary in October, 2019, and this was the impetus to make this available for sale.



Eclogue for solo cello by Malcolm Forsyth

This piece, dedicated to his daughter Amanda, explores the many facets of the cello. In three sections it looks at how the cello can sound cool and unemotional, sul ponticello (bowing near the bridge) to produce a disembodied random sounding of high harmonics and finally the radiant high register soaring of the instrument let loose in the last movement.



The Swan Sees His Reflection

for cello and piano by Malcolm Forsyth
Inspired by the famous swan of Saint-Saëns, this piece was written as a competition piece for twelve-year olds at the Alberta Music Festival. The cello line is beautiful long bow strokes with arpeggiated piano accompaniment. This has been recorded by Amanda Forsyth and

Peter Longworth on the disc *Soaring with Agamemnon* on the Marquis Classics label 81231 2 (Canada)

Discovery Series 2019

These are the pieces we want to bring to your attention and recommend to you as our 2019 Discovery Series Titles.

Visit our website at www.cpmusiclibrary.ca/discovery-series/ to find links to listen. It is worth the time.

Most of these are available to purchase through our online store. Visit the store at: www.cpmusiclibrary.ca/store/ and type the title into the search box on the upper right. *Tales from Amerindia* and *From the Diary of Virginia Woolf* full scores are available for perusal, upon request.

Larysa Kuzmenko - Christmas Bells for S.A. children's chorus and piano, Dur: 3:00. Text: Poem by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow of the same name, tells the story of how hearing the Christmas Bells brings the feeling of "peace on earth, good will to men".

Malcolm Forsyth - Novum Spatium (A New Space) (1985). For 3 brass quartets (4 tpts, 4 hrs, 4 tmbs), created for the opening of Jack Singer Concert Hall in Calgary, Alberta. *New publication in December, 2019.

Marc Fortier - Tales from Amerindia - A tone poem for chamber orchestra, featuring the Timpani Family of 5 and chamber orchestra. Dur: 5:00. Timpani + fl 1(+ opt Kena).fl 2(=picc). ob.clar.bsn./2hrs.tpt.tmb.0./2perc./sts This work is a revised and shortened version of *Un doigt de la lune, Ouverture*, a 15-minute original composition that won the 1st Prize in Milan in 1968.

Edmund T. Atherton - Three Speed Invention for trombone and piano. Dur: 4:30. Think of a three-speed bicycle and a trombone player all wrapped up in one package and you have the inspiration for this piece.

*New publication in December, 2019

Andrew James Clark - The Valley of Dry Bones (2015) for soprano and piano. Dur: 7:00. This is a personal reflection on the mass suicide after the siege of Masada (73-74 CE). The text is from the book of Ezekiel from the Bible where the prophet sees a vision of dry bones in a valley, one of the two texts discovered after excavation of the site. Quite a striking and interesting piece. This is part of our Young Composers' Series.

Dan Locklair - Rubrics (1988) for solo organ. This work is now 30 years old and remains Dan's most often performed piece. From Presidents' funerals to the Cathedrals of New York and the U.K. it has been performed all over the world. For sale through Hal Leonard at: www.halleonard.com/product/50481108/rubrics-a-liturgical-suite-for-organ

Gary Kulesha - Three Caprices (1988) for solo violin. Dur: 7:00. One of the composer's most performed works, each of the caprices is a different character. The first is ceremonial, the second jagged and angular and the third is a combination.

Gary Kulesha - From the Diary of Virginia Woolf for mezzo-soprano and orchestra (2017). Dur: 21:00. Virginia Woolf is the composer's favourite author. The text for this work was taken from the last diary that she wrote before her death, and describes life just before and at the beginning of World War II. He wrote this work to give "an emotionally and psychologically rich portrait of this woman." Text: Virginia Woolf. MS+2 fl.2 ob.2 clar.2 bsn./4 hrs.2 tpts. 3 tmb. 1 tbs./ timp 2 perc strings

Counterpoint's YouTube Channel

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Counterpoint Highlights available in PDF

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