

Tributes

Christopher Finch, euphonium

Taiko Pelick, piano

**University Baptist Church
5:30pm**

Program

Move Their Mind

Stan Nieuwenhuis

Lester Rushin, drumset

Concerto for Euphonium

Samuel Finch

Mvt. I: Matthew
Mvt. II: Samuel
Mvt. III: Kathryn
Mvt. IV: Christopher

~ Intermission ~

Origins

Peter Meechan

Mvt. II: Harry's Song

Fly or Die

Gilles Rocha

Mahzel

Jack Beekamn
Arr. Ryan McGeorge

Preston Rice, euphonium
Jayden Thomas, euphonium
Connor Koriath, tuba

Move Their Mind:

This solo was commissioned by Glenn Van Looy when he wanted to find some music for his first solo album that was interesting and written by a young composer. This piece symbolizes a quest for a new sound and style for the euphonium – which will be quite evident as the piece progresses. It is a challenging piece consisting of three sections: A furious opening that pushes the soloist to the limit of range and speed, a slow melancholic section, and a chaotic finale that utilizes wide intervals and multiphonics. This piece is dedicated to my good friends from Richardson, Texas that always pushed me as a musician.

Concerto for Euphonium:

This concerto was written by my twin brother, Samuel Finch, while we were in high school together. He originally wrote this because of his love for composition and we later realized that I could perform this during my college years. Thus, the movements were revised and set for each of our siblings: Mvt 1 for Matthew – very chaotic in nature, Mvt 2 for Samuel – calm and reserved, Mvt 3 for Kathryn – very precise and deliberate, and Mvt 4 for myself – flashy and vivace. Of course, it only seemed fitting to perform and dedicate this concerto to each of my three siblings who I can always count on for support. Here are a few notes from the composer:

“I started writing this my freshman year of high school as a birthday gift to Christopher. Back then it was not even close to being finished, as it was a very rough draft. Over the many years, Christopher and I have been editing the piece. With the help of Christopher’s knowledge of music theory and euphonium, it was finally completed this year – 2021. I never thought it would ever be performed, as composing was just a hobby of mine. Now, the debut of “Concerto for Euphonium” is actually happening. Each movement has been dedicated to each of my three siblings and myself.”

Origins:

Mvt II: Harry’s Song

This movement entitled *Harry’s Song* is from the Origins Concerto composed by Peter Meechan. A happy and reflective movement that conveys the origins of life. The melody was written on the evening that Peter Meechan’s closest friend, Mark Bousie, and his wife had their first child – Harry. Seeing as this solo is about the origins of life, I of course had to perform and dedicate this piece to my mother. She has always been fond of Peter Meechan’s music and when I realized he composed this piece, I knew I would dedicate it to her.

Fly or Die:

Fly or Die is a flashy solo full of fast melodic lines and a very demanding range, even for a solo written for bass trombone. Gilles Rocha composed this piece for Lionel Fumeaux, a wonderfully talented trombonist. Lionel currently plays in the Brass Band Treize Etioles in Switzerland and has won numerous solo competitions as well as been a part of many brass band competitions. This piece is dedicated to my father because of his fast-paced lifestyle. Even in the swung lyrical section, there is a sense of urgency – a perfect solo to depict my father.

Mahzel:

Mahzel is a catchy Yiddish style folk song describing one's good luck. This song was most famously recorded in 1947 by R&B quartet The Ravens. It was not long before big band writer Johnny Warrington arranged the tune for Benny Goodman and his orchestra. This tuba/euphonium quartet version is based on Warrington's arrangement, with a driving medium swing groove, featuring the lead euphonium performing a vintage Benny Goodman solo. Special thank you to my good friends Preston, Jayden, and Connor for performing this with me! This quartet is dedicated to all of my friends and mentors that I crossed paths with while I have attended TCU. I wish all of you good luck in your lives – Mahzel!