

Friday, November 2, 2018

## **DSO Opens Chamber Series with Woodwind Program**

*By Christine Facciolo*

In a commendable change of pace, the Delaware Symphony Orchestra (DSO) opened its Chamber Concert Series with a memorable evening of music for woodwinds.

The DSO Woodwind Quintet proved to be exciting and dynamic performers by offering a program that was both eclectic and entertaining.

Playing works that were stylistically distinct the five musicians in the group — Kimberly Reighley, *flute*; Lloyd Shorter, *oboe*; Charles Salinger, *clarinet*; Jon Gaarder, *bassoon* and Karen Schubert, *horn* — showed the diversity of the woodwind quintet despite the paucity of repertoire for it.

The ensemble warmed up with expertly crafted works by notable French flutist and teacher Claude-Paul Taffanel's *Wind Quintet in G minor* and his contemporary Charles Lefebvre's *Suite for Winds No. 1, Op. 57*. The latter is a standard of the wind quintet repertoire, demonstrating a superior understanding of how to orchestrate for these five instruments.

Taffanel's *Suite for Winds* is thoroughly French and late Romantic in style with rapidly changing moods.

The most interesting piece in the concert was Paquito D'Rivera's *Aires Tropicales*, written in 1994. This charmer of a piece contains a wealth of melodic traditions, playful inventions and enticing rhythms. Noteworthy movements included "Dizzyness," a tribute to the late, great Dizzy Gillespie, Habanera, a trio for flute, clarinet and bassoon in the style of Ravel, Contradanza, an upbeat Cuban dance honoring Ernesto Lecuonar. Vals Venezolano, a lively Venezuelan waltz and Afro, an energetic dance over an African ostinato.

The evening of varied music concluded with a performance of *Aria and Quodlibet for Woodwind Quintet* by clarinetist Arne Running (1943-2016). The *Aria* contains a chorale in the low winds, the repetition of which features Shorter's oboe singing high above the melodic line. The *Quodlibet* is sheer fun; a pastiche of tunes from virtually every corner of the musical world.

See [www.delawaresymphony.org](http://www.delawaresymphony.org).

Posted by [Michelle Kramer-Fitzgerald](#)