

Long Theatre - Sunday 4 P.M. - March 26, 1978

FRIENDS OF CHAMBER MUSIC
in cooperation with
SAN JOAQUIN DELTA COLLEGE
and
UNIVERSITY OF THE PACIFIC
present the

DANZI WOODWIND QUINTET

Frans Vester, Flute
Jan Spronk, Oboe
Piet Honingh, Clarinet
Brian Pollard, Bassoon
Adriaan van Woudenberg, Horn

PROGRAM

Quintet in E-Flat Op. 88 Nr. 2.....Antonin Reicha
(1812) 1770-1836
Lento-allegro moderato
Menuetto Allegro Trio I Trio II
Poco Andante
Finale Allegro

INTERMISSION

5 Pieces for Woodwind QuintetWerner Egk
I Monolog 1910
II Choral
III Mobile
IV Dialog
V Finale

Quintet (1951).....Jean Françaix
Andante Tranquillo-Allegro Assai 1912
Presto
Tema con Variazioni
Tempo di marcia Francese

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535 El Camino Del Mar • San Francisco, California

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DANZI WOODWIND QUINTET

"Just when every visiting chamber ensemble from Europe was beginning to sound the same, along comes the Danzi Woodwind Quintet from the Netherlands to give an entirely new scope to the proceedings," wrote a California critic upon hearing the Danzi for the first time. He was expressing a delight felt by audiences throughout the country who were hearing hitherto unknown works for wind ensemble, many of which had been unearthed from the archives by members of the Quintet, others of which had been written especially for them by contemporary composers who were impressed by the group's imaginative as well as technically faultless playing.

The Danzi Woodwind Quintet was founded in 1958 by five woodwind players who had been students at the Amsterdam Conservatory, and who all hold first chairs of the Concertgebouw Orchestra and the Netherlands Opera Orchestra. (The bassoonist, Brian Pollard, is an Englishman; the others were born in the Netherlands). Their name was taken from the Mannheim musician and composer, Franz Danzi, a contemporary of Mozart and Beethoven, and one of the first composers of chamber music for woodwinds. In addition to reviving works of Danzi and other relatively unknown composers such as Anton Reicha and Francois Gebauer, the group has brought to light little known and forgotten works of Rossini, Mozart, Haydn and Beethoven.

The ensemble's devotion to modern works began with their first public concert at the Holland Festival when, after more than 100 rehearsals, they performed the difficult Schoenberg Quintet Opus 26. Public response was so enthusiastic, the concert had to be repeated. Performances throughout Europe followed, and in 1960 the Quintet visited Israel. Their first concert tour of North America took place during the 1964-65 season, since when they have returned repeatedly.

Along with its fresh crop of music, the Danzi Quintet has been praised for its clarity and brightness of sound as well as its originality of presentation. A Columbus, Ohio critic writes, "What matters to the Danzi Quintet is the glorious individuality of these instruments and the infinitely rich possibilities in combining and accommodating their distinct characteristics. In their search for ultimate expressiveness, the Quintet 'goes for broke.' No risk is too great to take for the dramatic arpeggio, the biting attack, the tonal variation. The result is enormously dramatic, and highly satisfying."

A sizeable portion of the Danzi Quintet's repertoire has been recorded on the Philips, Artone, Diskanto and Donemus labels.