

## Program Notes Vocabulary

**Allegro** – A tempo marking or indication meaning quick or lively. Can also be used as a name of a movement

**Basset Horn** – Invented in the eighteenth century, longer than a standard clarinet and able to play three notes lower. Because of its extended length, the low register has greater depth of tone.

**Concerto** – A major composition for soloist and orchestra. A concerto usually consists of three movements: fast, slow, fast.

**Counterpoint** – The combination of two or more melodic lines – each one able to stand on its own musical merit. Contrapuntal – having to do with counterpoint.

**Clavier** – The predecessor to the piano.

**Composition** – The work of one who creates.

**Developmental Section** – The part of a musical composition where the composer elaborates upon the basic thematic material of the work.

**Form** – The design of a musical composition.

**Tutti** – (*toot- ie*) – When everyone plays together – usually an indication, in a concerto, that the entire orchestra plays.

**Minor** – Used to describe notes, scales and keys; characterized by sounding sad.

**Major** – Used to describe notes, scales, and keys; characterized by sounding happy.

**Ritornello** – A short section at the end of a work, usually restating something that happened before.

**Adagio** – Slow, usually indicates that time will be doubled i.e. 4/4 time will be played as 8/8 time with the eighth note receiving one beat.

**Lyrical** – Like a melody or simple tune.

**Register** – Different parts of the range of instruments – range meaning the span of notes produced by an instrument. Wind instruments of registers that sound better than others.

**Coda** – Ending or concluding section.

**Ornamentation** – The embellishing of musical lines. Ornamentation may be improvised by the performer, indicated with a graphic sign, or it may be written in standard notation.

**Harmony** – The result when two or more notes are played together.

**Köchel listing** – The chronological list of Mozart's compositions by L. Von Köchel.

**Motif** – A melodic and/or rhythmic idea that is used as a common element in a composition.

**Movement** – A self contained section of a larger work.

**Premier** – The first time a work is performed in public.

**Recapitulation** – The return of the main themes. Usually occurs at the end of a piece.

**Rondo** – Characterized by the return of the 1<sup>st</sup> theme, like chorus, verse, chorus, verse.

**Theme** – A main musical idea of a composition.

**Tone Poem** or Symphonic poem piece of orchestral music in a single continuous section in which the content of a poem, a story or novel, a painting, a landscape or another (non-musical) source is illustrated or evoked.

**Pan flute** – An ancient musical instrument based on the principle of the Closed tube, consisting usually of five or more pipes of gradually increasing length (and, at times, girth).

**Persian modes** – Music from Western and Southwestern Asia.

**Sonata** – A composition for a solo instrument, comprised of many movements. It may or may not have piano accompaniment.

**Sonata form** – The most characteristic movement form in instrumental music from the Classical period.

**Variation** – The changing or developing of a musical idea in a way that one can recognize characteristics of the original.