

# Montgomery Philharmonic

Intersecting with the Community

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## Montgomery Philharmonic 2014 - 2015 Concert Season – SINGULARITY Chamber Music – Sunday, June 7, 2015

Ravel - String Quartet (1903) | Nielsen – Quintet for Winds | Spohr – Nonet | **Arnold – Quintet for Brass**

### About Malcolm Arnold –

**Sir Malcolm Henry Arnold, CBE**, was an English composer. He gained a reputation for composing light music, film scores, and works for theater, ballets, and symphonies.

Arnold was born in Northampton, England, the youngest of five children in a prosperous Northampton family of shoemakers. He heard Louis Armstrong play trumpet in Bournemouth and decided to take up the trumpet at the age of 12. Arnold studied the trumpet with Ernest Hall and composition with Gordon Jacob at the Royal College of Music. He joined the London Philharmonic Orchestra as second trumpet in 1941 and was promoted to principal trumpet in 1943.

At age 30, Arnold began to devote his life to composing. He built a reputation for composing beautiful melodies and music that had a light character, and wrote several concert overtures and sets of Welsh, English, Scottish, Irish, and Cornish Dances as well. He was also asked to write a lot of film music. His more than 100 film scores included music for “Bridge on the River Kwai,” “Hobson’s Choice,” and the score for the St. Trinian’s series. He also wrote nine symphonies, which are rarely heard.

**Born:** October 21, 1921, Northampton, United Kingdom

**Died:** September 23, 2006, Norwich, United Kingdom

**Compositions:** The River Kwai March, Tam O’Shanter Overture, Welsh Dances, Scottish Dances, Irish Dances, 9 Symphonies, several concerti, several chamber works.

**Spouse:** Isobel Grey (m. 1964–1979), Sheila Nicholson (m. 1940–1964)

**Children:** Robert Arnold, Edward Arnold, and Katherine Arnold

### Malcolm Arnold – *Quintet for Brass, Opus 73 (1961)*

Sir Malcolm’s Quintet for Brass remains one of the most widely played chamber works. It is one of the absolute classics of the genre, and established the instrumentation of two trumpets, French horn, trombone, and tuba as the standard brass quintet. Because Arnold was a trumpeter, he knew the capabilities of the instruments and the players very well. This made for dangerous composing, since he loved to push the limits of the instruments and those playing them.

The work was written for the New York Brass Quintet, the group which at that time was setting the standard for the rest of the world to emulate; it had an immediate impact and was a success. Listening to the work, one is unprepared for the inventiveness and range encountered in the three-movement, 12-minute work. All sorts of articulation, including soulful legato playing as well as crisp staccato passages, and light and tripping passages as well as the powerful and assertive sound are present in the quintet.

**Instrumentation** – 2 trumpets, horn in F, trombone, tuba

### Artifact –

<http://malcolmarnold.co.uk/gallery.html> – Photo Gallery

[http://malcolmarnold.co.uk/multi\\_media\\_recrodings\\_sound\\_samples.html](http://malcolmarnold.co.uk/multi_media_recrodings_sound_samples.html) - Other works by Malcolm Arnold

### iTunes Links –

Bach, J.: Foliations - Arnold, M.: Brass Quintet No. 1 - Bozza, E.: Sonatine - Linkola, J.: Brass Quintet No. 2 (Lindberg, Stockholm Chamber Ensemble) - Stockholm Chamber Brass

Brass Bonanza - Metropolitan Brass Quintet, Berlin Brass Quintet, Annapolis Brass Quintet, New York Brass Quintet, Dallas Brass Quintet, Saint Louis Brass Quintet & I-5 Brass Quintet

Music for Brass Ensemble - Swedish Brass Quintet & Malmo Brass Ensemble

### Amazon.com Links –

Center City Brass

Classical Brass - Eastern Brass Quintet - works by Malcolm Arnold, Gabrieli, J.S. Bach, Hindemith, Charles Ives, etc.

QUINTET FOR BRASS OP73 SCORE

### YouTube Video Links –

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ixvkMetDyIw>

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CsS71W\\_HK0c](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CsS71W_HK0c)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0PyEH5GQGI8>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hC2xKuwejYE>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TfsKwCivnPc>