

Montgomery Philharmonic 2014 - 2015 Concert Season – SINGULARITY January 29, 2015

Canticle for the Sun | Le Froid de l'hiver | Overture for Winds | An American in Paris | Tromphonium Musik | Variations on America

About Felix Mendelssohn

Jakob Ludwig Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy, born and widely known as Felix Mendelssohn, was a German composer, pianist, organist, and conductor of the early Romantic period. Mendelssohn was singularly responsible for bringing the music of Johann Sebastian Bach out of obscurity by conducting Bach's compositions.

His compositions were considered more conservative than his contemporaries Liszt, Wagner, and Berlioz. Known primarily for his symphonies and concerti, Mendelssohn also wrote several well-known oratorios and chamber music, as well as piano music.

As a conductor, he held many important posts. He began his conducting career in Düsseldorf as the music director of The Lower Rhenish Music Festival. His first performance was Handel's Israel in Egypt followed by Bach's St. Matthew Passion. This caused a revival of the works of both Handel and Bach throughout Germany. Following his post in Düsseldorf, he chose an appointment as the music director of the Leipzig Gewandhaus Orchestra. It was in Leipzig where he developed a strong musical culture with the Gewandhaus Orchestra, the opera house, and the Choir of St. Thomas Church and also founded the Leipzig Conservatory of Music.

* **Born:** February 3, 1809, Hamburg, Germany

* **Died:** November 4, 1847, Leipzig, Germany

* **Compositions:** Violin Concerto, Elijah, Songs Without Words, More

* **Siblings:** Fanny Mendelssohn, Rebecka Mendelssohn, Paul Mendelssohn

* **Children:** Paul Mendelssohn Bartholdy, Carl Mendelssohn Bartholdy, Marie Mendelssohn Bartholdy, Lilli Mendelssohn Bartholdy, Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy

* **Parents:** Abraham Mendelssohn Bartholdy, Lea Mendelssohn Bartholdy

Felix Mendelssohn – *Overture in C major for Winds, Opus 24 (1826)* (edited by Miller Asbill and Kevin Gerald)

Mendelssohn composed this overture for a Wind Band that was playing at the Doberan resort, on the coast of the Baltic Sea. He happened to be staying at the resort with his family and, at age 15, thought that it might be fun to compose a piece for the band. Although he was very young, this piece was not his first and it displays much of his mature composition style even at this very young age.

The work is in Sonata Allegro form, with a slow melodic introduction that leads directly into a spirited allegro full of counterpoint and polyphonic introduction. The composition shows Mendelssohn's classicist style, yet it has the grace and beauty of a true Romantic era composer. It is one of only a handful of pieces written for band during the Romantic era.

Instrumentation – piccolo, flute, 2 oboes, 2 clarinets in Eb, 4 clarinets in Bb, 2 bassoons, contra bassoon, 4 horns in F, 2 trumpets in Bb, 3 trombones, euphonium, tuba, snare drum, triangle, bass drum, crash cymbals

Artifact – First edition of the full score

http://conquest.imslp.info/files/imglnks/usimg/e/ea/IMSLP28783-PMLP63686-Mendelssohn_Overture_Winds_Op24.pdf

http://www.amazon.com/Guides-Band-Masterworks-Robert-Garofalo/dp/1574630229/ref=sr_1_41?ie=UTF8&qid=1414978677&sr=8-41&keywords=Mendelssohn+Overture+for+Winds



1. Mendelssohn: Overtures - Neville Marriner & Academy of St. Martin in the Fields

2. 1999 WASBE San Luis Obispo, California: Indiana State University Faculty Winds - John P. Boyd, Indiana State University Faculty Winds & Fred Korman

3. Im Gleichschritt-Fortschritt-Marsch - Alfredo Bernardini & Blaserensemble des Ferdinandiums



Mendelssohn: Overtures

YouTube Video Links –

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8y2iFEKoNOY>

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c_hvO28zUE0