

Driftwood Quintet EPK

About Driftwood

Based out of Phoenix, Arizona; the Driftwood Quintet is a chamber group that is dedicated to crossing genres and bending boundaries in classical musical. Through the work of Driftwood's arrangers, a Driftwood performance can feature everything from orchestral masterworks and piano pieces to the imaginative soundtracks from the greatest video game and film composers. As tireless collaborators, Driftwood also seeks to create memorable experiences through collaborations with artists from a variety of disciplines ranging from jazz musicians and singer/song-writers to dancers and visual artists.

Driftwood also exemplifies its dedication to chamber music through educational outreach. As educators, the Driftwood team engages the youth through interactive performances that integrate music with a variety of different disciplines such as language arts, science, history, and visual art. Members of the Driftwood Quintet are also active music educators in the Phoenix metropolitan area. Three of its five members are currently working in high needs and developing elementary and middle schools to improve the quality of public music education and foster lifelong musical literacy.

Members

Olivia Erwin, oboe/English horn

[view/download](#)



Olivia Erwin is a professional oboist from Austin, Texas. She received her Bachelors degree in Oboe Performance from The University of Colorado, Boulder where she studied with Peter Cooper and James Brody. Ms. Erwin was most recently a Teaching Assistant at Arizona State University and completed her Masters degree in Oboe Performance with Martin Schuring in May 2016. In the summer following her graduation from ASU, Olivia was invited to be a part of the Saaburg Music Festival where she performed as a Guest Artist. She has been a member of the Austin Chamber Music Center for 15 years, where she held the position of Workshop Coordinator for the 2015 Summer Workshop. For their 2015-16 season, Ms. Erwin was the Concert Manager for the Mill Avenue Chamber Players, a professional woodwind quintet based in Phoenix, AZ. In addition to performing with orchestras

and chamber groups in the United States, Olivia has had the wonderful opportunity to tour Germany and the Czech Republic with the Denver Young Artists Orchestra, and in 2013 to study abroad and perform in Vienna, Austria.

Melissa Malork, clarinet[view/download](#)

Melissa Malork is a clarinetist and woodwind instructor based out of Tempe, Arizona. Originally from the San Francisco Bay Area, she studied with Roy Zajac of the Santa Rosa Symphony, and also played principal clarinet of the Santa Rosa Symphony Youth Orchestra. Melissa attended community college in preparation to transfer, and was principal clarinet of the 2010 Music Association of California Community Colleges Honor Band. In her last concert at home she performed the first movement of Carl Maria von Weber's First Concerto for Clarinet with the Santa Rosa Junior College Symphonic Band.

Melissa then studied at Arizona State University under Dr. Joshua Gardner and international soloist Dr. Robert Spring for her Bachelor of Music in Clarinet Performance. At ASU she performed in a masterclass with Julian Bliss, and the Driftwood Quintet performed one of her arrangements in a masterclass by David Bell. Melissa is particularly interested in new music, and commissioned pieces for clarinet and contemporary jazz ensemble on her senior recital. In addition to the clarinet Melissa also doubles flute and saxophone, and enjoys singing. She regularly performs in pit orchestras, frequently appearing with the Scottsdale Theatre Company, and has also worked with Mesa Encore Theater, Detour Theater Company, and Summer Repertory Theater. Melissa is one of the contributors to Driftwood's growing selection of arrangements. She spends her free time cuddling with her cat.

Dan Meadows, saxophone[view/download](#)

Saxophonist Dan Meadows is originally from Smithtown, New York. He received a BME from the Crane School of Music at SUNY Potsdam and a MM in saxophone performance from Arizona State University where he studied with Dr. Christopher Creviston. Dan extensively studied classical saxophone and chamber music as well as jazz and latin music. As part of the Drosera saxophone quartet, he advanced to the final rounds of the MTNA chamber music competition as well as the final round of the NASA chamber music competition. Dan has performed in ensembles with The Mambo Legends Orchestra, Benny Golson, Cyrille Aimee, Tony DeSare, Steve Wilson, Lewis Nash, Wayne Bergeron, and Andy Martin. Dan is currently working as a private teacher and freelance performer in the Phoenix area, currently working with the JJ's band, The Groove Merchants, and the Driftwood Reed Quintet.



Benjamin Paley, bassoon - [view/download](#)

Benjamin Paley, a Valley of the Sun native, first found his love for the bassoon at an early age. The instrument first appealed to Ben in a third grade field trip to see Prokofiev's Peter and the Wolf. To young Ben, no sound had more allure than that of the bassoon as the affectionate grandfather. Since then, Ben has played bassoon with the Symphony of the Southwest, including two seasons with its partner youth orchestra, the Youth Symphony of the Southwest. He was a four-year member of the Arizona Southwest Region Band/Orchestra and a three-year member of the Arizona All-State Band/Orchestra.

Ben currently teaches general music at JD Sutton Elementary School in Phoenix, a part of the Isaac School District. Likewise, Ben teaches guitar lessons and other various music history and music theory classes through the Phoenix Conservatory of Music.

First arranging music for the marching band in high school, Ben arranged both classical and pop music through his undergraduate career for various ensembles besides the Driftwood Quintet, including from 2011-2012, the bassoon rock band Bocal Adrenaline. Ben went on to receive his Bachelor of Music degree from Arizona State University, studying with Albie Micklich. Ben also earned a concurrent Bachelor of Science degree in Sociology and a degree from Barrett, the Honors college, completing his honors thesis, Integrating Music and Studying: The Relationships Between Music, Affect, and Academic Achievement.

Ben also plays bass, performing with big bands and small combos throughout the East Valley, and playing electric bass in his synagogue rock band, the Shabbat-tones of Temple Emanuel of Tempe. Also a singer and songwriter, Ben performs and records music with his childhood friend Charles Wanless under the name other Desert Cities. Their first album The History of What's to Come released in 2015 and a follow up album is expected in early 2017.

Dominique Holley, bass clarinet - [view/download](#)



As someone with a strong dedication to diversity in music, Dominique Holley uses his role as Driftwood Quintet's Executive Director to prove that chamber music can be an efficient medium not only for entertainment but for community enrichment and social discussion. Through his arrangements he has sought to highlight the works of composers of the African Diaspora as well other underrepresented groups in the classical music canon.

Outside of Driftwood, Dominique has performed as principal clarinetist of the AZ Promusica Chorale and Orchestra, bass clarinetist of the Tempe Symphonic Winds, and clarinetist/bass clarinetist in the Phoenix-based Open Score Ensemble under the direction of Jacob Adler. Smaller ensembles he has taken part of include the indie folk-blues band The Paper Hats and the jazz combos The Outer Limits and the Sun Trio

As an educator Dominique aims to bring the joy of music to underprivileged youth both through Driftwood's educational programming and through his work with the non-profit organization Harmony Project Phoenix.

Dominique attended Arizona State University where he studied clarinet performance with Robert Spring and Dr. Gardner as well jazz studies with Bryon Ruth and Michael Kocour. He has also studied privately with members of Chicago-based Fifth House Ensemble and Phoenix Symphony principal clarinetist Alex Laing and bass clarinetist Steve Hanusofski.

Press Photos



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Dimensions: 4639 x 3212

File Size: 1.52 MB



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Dimensions: 4928 x 3264

File Size: 1.24 MB



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Dimensions: 4928 x 3264

File Size: 1.16 KB

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Video



Driftwood Quintet 2015-2016 Season Recap - [watch \(YouTube\)](#)



Phantom of the Opera (1925) w/ live soundtrack performed by Driftwood Quintet - [watch trailer \(YouTube\)](#)

Theatrical Poster: [view/download](#)

Audio

- Driftwood Quintet: Desert Reeds (2015) [Full Album]: [Listen \(wav\)](#)
- Kevin E. Kerr: .lost@(see?) (2016)[live]: [Listen \(m4a\)](#)
- Claude Debussy arranged by Benjamin Paley: La Plus Que Lente (2015): [Listen \(wav\)](#)
- Darius Milhaud arranged by Melissa Malork: Premiere Symphonie de Chambre III. Et Vif! (2016): [Listen \(wav\)](#)

Repertoire

Orchestral Arrangements:

- Saint-Georges/Holley - Symphony in D Major, Op. 11, No. 2, G 74
- Dukas/Paley - L'apprenti Sorcier
- Dvořák/Paley - Symphony No. 9, Mvmt IV
- Handel/Paley - Water Music Suite in D Major
 - Overture
 - Alla Hornepipe
 - Minuet
 - Lentement

- Bouree
- Mahler/Malork - Symphony No. 1, Mvmt 1
- Marquez/Holley - Danzon No. 2
- Milhaud/Malork - Premiere Symphonie de Chambre (La printemps)
- Saint-Saens/Ben Paley - Carnival of the Animals w/Poems by Ogden Nash
 - Intro/Lions
 - Hens
 - Elephant
 - Kangaroos
 - Aquarium
 - Long Ears
 - Cuckoo
 - Fossils
 - Swan
 - Finale
- Schubert/Holley - Unfinished Symphony in B minor
- Still/Holley - Afro- American Symphony, Mvmt I
- Villa-Lobos/Holley - Bachianas Brasileiras No. 9
- Villa-Lobos/Holley - Uirapuru (forthcoming)

Piano Arrangements:

- Coleridge-Taylor/Holley - Sometimes I Feel Like a Motherless Child
- Debussy/Paley - La Plus Que Lente
- Joplin/Paley - Magnetic Rag
- Mussorgsky/Malork - Pictures at an Exhibition
 - Promenade
 - Old Castle
 - Tuileries
 - Bydlo
 - Promenade & Ballet of the Unhatched Chicks
 - Con Mortuis in Lingua mortua
 - The Hut on Fowl's Legs & The Great Gate of Kiev
- Schoenberg/Paley - Three Piano Pieces, Op. 11, Mvmt 2. Massige Achtel

Covers:

- Drake/Paley - Hotline Bling
- Hisaishi/Holley - Sootballs (From Spirited Away)
- Kondo/Malork - Legend of Zelda Suite
- Masuda/Rabb - A Short Lecture on Pokemon
- The Seatbelts/Holley - Tank! (From Cowboy Bebop)
- Smith, Elliott/Paley - I Didn't Understand
- Uematsu/Malork - To Zanarkand
- Uematsu/Paley - Chocobo Variations
- Williams/Paley - Star Wars Suite

Commissions:

- Green, Zach - Weaker Apart (2016)
- Kennedy, Matthew - Selections from *Where the Heart Is* (2016)
- Kerr, Kevin E. - .lost@(see?) (2016)
- Rabb, Kincaid - Of Knights and Kings (2016)
- Woods, Ayanna - Echoes (2016)
- Atkinson, Lisa - Reed Quintet #1 (2015)
- Bayer, Elizabeth Kennedy - I Smell Paint, Smoke, and Dust (2015)
- Rabb, Kincaid - Jigsaw (2015)

Collaborative Pieces:

- Davis/Holley - Malcom's Aria, from 'X, The Life and Times of Malcolm X' (+baritone) (forthcoming)
- Ellington & Strayhorn/Holley, Malork, Paley - The Nutcracker Suite (+jazz rhythm section)(forthcoming)
- Richter/Paley - November (+violin soloist)
- Rotolo, Kyle - Follies, Fallacies, and Illusions (+double bass & flute)(Commissioned: 2016)
- Seatbelts, The/Holley - Tank!, from 'Cowboy Bebop' (+jazz rhythm section w/alto saxophone)
- Uematsu/Holley - One-Winged Angel, from 'Final Fantasy VII' (+jazz rhythm section w/alto saxophone)

Other:

- Coleman/Holley - Portraits of Josephine
- Dundee, Corey - Special Ops.
- Ravel/Malork - String Quartet in F Major, Mvmt. II
- Scott/Holley - Homage to Duke
- Smith, John Parker/Paley - The Star Spangled Banner
- Newman/Paley - 20th Century Fox Theme