Coral Reef

Christopher Thompson

Of all the marvelous sights in the world, the one place I find the greatest amount of solitude is near the ocean. Even from a young age, I have been enthralled with the flow of energy that the ocean provides. Therefore, my favorite sound to listen to is that of a wave crashing forward, propelling its water to shore, only to relax as the wave retreats back into the sea. Since I hold such a special place in my heart for the ocean, I wrote *Coral Reef* specifically to capture some of my favorite memories that I have experienced in and around it. In the second movement, for example, I captured the memory of the first time I had ever saw wild schools of fish swimming around a coral reef. Later in my life, I had the pleasure to snorkel amidst sea turtles in Mexico, whose graceful presence inspired me to write the third movement. Lastly, I feel that there is nothing more soothing than watching the sun set on a beach, and it is for this reason that I saved this idea for the last movement. I can say with certainty that this will not be my only composition that makes reference to the ocean, but I hope you enjoy the images that this piece paints.

C.T.

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Christopher Thompson has written music for a variety of ensembles including string orchestra, brass ensemble, brass quintet, and trumpet ensemble. His love for music started early in his life, as his mother, a professional flute player and elementary school music teacher, helped establish in him a strong musical foundation. He began his musical journey on the piano, and composed his first pieces of music with the encouragement of his private teacher. In grade school, he decided to learn to play the cello and trumpet, which have continued to feed his musical fascination. Christopher will complete his undergraduate degree in 2010 with a B.S. in Music Education from Indiana University of Pennsylvania. After graduation, he plans to teach music to many generations of future students, while continuing to record his thoughts on the world around him in his future musical compositions.

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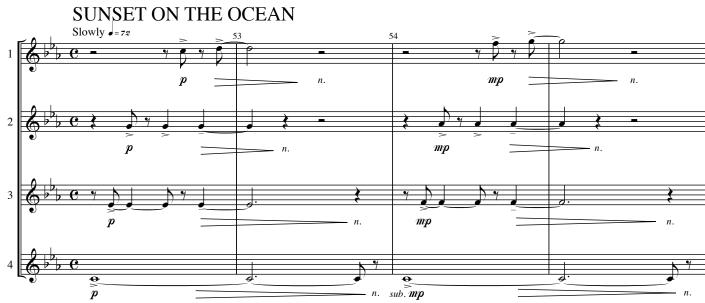


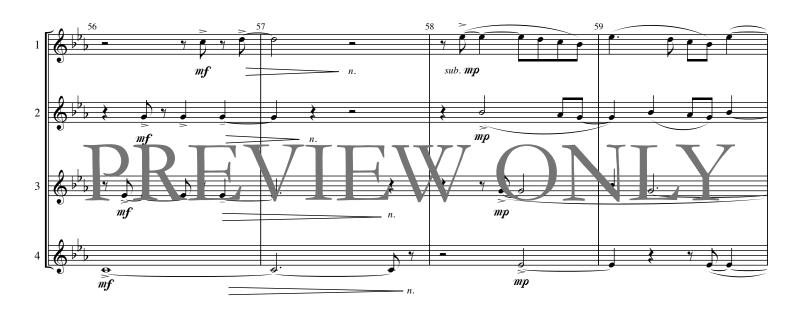


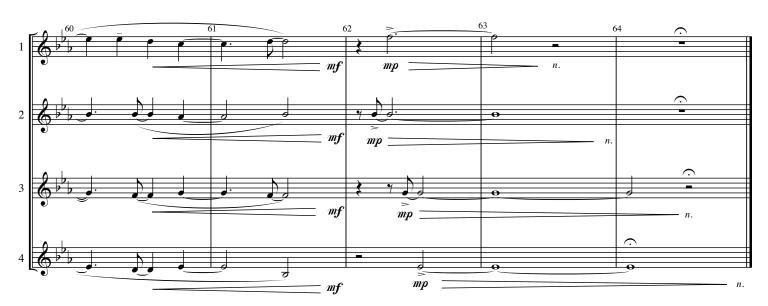


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