Hungarian-born György Ligeti was one of the first composers to become famous for the a style of composition which emerged in the 1960s. It called for abandonment of distinct pitch and rhythm in favor of chromatic sound complexes and necessitated a totally new approach to notation, using graphic illustrations of the character of the sounds, rather than notes and rests. In 1952, when he composed his *Six Bagatelles*, Ligeti was only just experimenting with the new style, and in any case the strict Communist censorship which prevailed in Hungary at the time prevented the publication of all but the most conservative works. It was not until Ligeti left Hungary in 1956 and emigrated to Austria that he was able to bring his more radical musical ideas to fruition.

Lalo Schifrin was born in Argentina and moved to the United States in 1958. A jazz pianist by profession, his music is infused with the language of jazz, but is also informed by the lessons he learned at the Paris Conservatory from Charles Koechlin and Olivier Messiaen. He has more than eighty film and television scores to his credit, including music used for episodes of *Mission: Impossible* and the popular films *Cool Hand Luke, The Four Musketeers, The Eagle Has Landed*, and *The Sting II*.

Another composer who emigrated from his home area to Austria was Ludwig Thuille, although in his case the reasons were personal rather than political. Thuille was orphaned in 1872 and was taken by family members who recognized his musical talent to the Benedictine Abbey in Kremsmünster, where he was both housed and trained. When he wrote his *Sextet* in the late 1880s, he was a teacher at the Royal School of Music in Frankfurt-am-Main and was achieving considerable fame throughout Germany and Austria as a chamber pianist, accompanist, and composer.

Concerts from the National Gallery are broadcast in their entirety at 7:00 p.m. on Sundays on radio station WGTS, 91.9 FM, four weeks after the live performance. The use of cameras or recording equipment during the performance is not allowed.

For the convenience of concertgoers the Garden Café remains open until 6:30 p.m.

The Fifty-fourth Season of

THE WILLIAM NELSON CROMWELL and E. LAMMOT BELIN CONCERTS

at the

National Gallery of Art



2189th Concert

NATIONAL GALLERY CHAMBER PLAYERS

Music for Wind Quintet and Piano STEPHANI STANG-McCUSKER, flute

CAROLE LIBELO, oboe

MERLIN PETROFF, clarinet

PHILIP MUNDS, French horn

DANNY K. PHIPPS, bassoon

With Guest Artist

JOSEPH HOLT, piano

Sunday Evening, April 7, 1996 at Seven O'clock West Building, West Garden Court

Admission Free

PROGRAM

Stuart Balcomb (b. 1951)

Ellis Island (1983)

Washington Premiere Performance

György Ligeti (b.1923)

Six Bagatelles (1952)

Lalo Schifrin (b. 1932)

La Nouvelle Orleans

Washington Premiere Performance

INTERMISSION

Ludwig Thuille (1861-1907)

Sextet for Woodwind Quintet and Piano Opus 6 (1886-88)

Allegro moderato Larghetto Gavotte Finale

Thanks to the enthusiastic public reception of their inaugural appearance at the Gallery in 1995, the NATIONAL GALLERY CHAMBER PLAY-ERS are continuing to prepare and present chamber concerts in various formations and at various times throughout the Gallery's concert season. Under the guidance of Gallery music director George Manos, it is the intent of the ensemble to explore and present masterpieces of chamber music which are not often heard, as well as the standard classics of the chamber music repertoire. The National Gallery Chamber Players will be heard again next week at the Gallery, with members of the string sections of the National Gallery Orchestra and clarinetist Merlin Petroff playing Mozart's *Quintet, K. 581* and Brahms' *Quintet, Opus 115*.

Flutist STEPHANI STANG-McCUSKER, a native of Washington, D.C., has been a member of the Kennedy Center Opera House Orchestra since 1979 and has performed with the National Gallery Orchestra since 1992. She is principal flutist of the Filene Center Orchestra at Wolf Trap and of the National Theatre Orchestra. Ms. McCusker has appeared as soloist with the Concert Artists of Baltimore and the Alexandria Symphony Orchestra.

Oboist CAROLE LIBELO joined the National Gallery Orchestra in 1983. Last season she appeared as soloist with that ensemble in a performance of J. S. Bach's *Double Concerto for Oboe and Violin*, and with the Virginia Chamber Orchestra, performing the Vaughan Williams *Concerto for Oboe and Strings*. Since 1983 Ms. Libelo has been the assistant principal oboist and solo English hornist of the Kennedy Center Opera House Orchestra.

Clarinetist MERLIN PETROFF began his musical studies with William DeBoucher and pursued advanced clarinet study under Joseph Allard at Juilliard. He has played recitals with a number of world-famous artists, including James Levine and Beverly Sills, and has numerous small ensemble and solo performances to his credit, including solos with the National Gallery Orchestra. Mr. Petroff was accepted into the United States Marine Band in 1969, and served as its principal clarinetist from 1985 to 1992.

Senior Master Sergeant DANNY K. PHIPPS is the principal bassoonist with the United States Air Force Concert Band at Bolling Air Force Base. He is also principal bassoonist of the Air Force Symphony Orchestra, the Air Force Wind Quintet, and the Air Force Chamber Players, of which he is officer-in charge. A graduate of the Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia, Sergeant Phipps has his masters and doctor of musical arts degrees from The Catholic University of America.

PHILIP C. MUNDS is a 1986 graduate of the San Francisco Conservatory of Music. Prior to joining the United States Air Force Band, Technical Sergeant Munds performed with the San Francisco Symphony and as principal horn of the Santa Cruz, Modesto, and Berkeley (California) Symphony Orchestras. He has played with the National Gallery Orchestra since 1995.

Pianist JOSEPH HOLT enjoys a wide-ranging career as soloist and chamber music performer. He is staff pianist with the United States Army Chorus, an artist member of the Chamber Artists of Washington, and an adjunct member of the music faculty at The American University. As a solo recitalist and collaborative artist with outstanding singers and instrumentalists, Mr. Holt has appeared here at the National Gallery, as well as at the Kennedy Center, the Phillips Collection, Wolf Trap, the Aspen Institute, and the Spanish Institute in New York City.