

Paul STEENHUISEN - PROGRAM NOTES

PIECE: Amaranth

Each of the four movements in Amaranth concentrates on a different form of the pitch-motive and explores one of the many extended techniques possible on the instrument, such as multiple-stops, pizzicato, sul ponticello, and col legno. The title refers to an imaginary flower that never fades away. This idea is represented in the music by the frequent reference to the primary melodic motive, in various forms. As well, each movement (Ka, Golden Wave, Elatum, and Nova) is named after a flower that blooms in one season. The complete cycle represents one year of continuous presence and growth.