



**HARVEY J. STOKES**

**String Quartet No. 1**

**String Quartet No. 2**

**String Quartet No. 3**

**Albany**

**THE  
OXFORD  
STRING  
QUARTET**

## HARVEY J. STOKES

Dr. Harvey J. Stokes is professor of music at Hampton University, and founder and director of the Computer Music Laboratory. His degrees are from Michigan State University, the University of Georgia, and East Carolina University. His composition instructors include Brett Watson, Alan Leichtling, John Corina, Lewis Nielson, Jere Hutcheson, and Charles Ruggerio. The recipient of numerous composition awards, including those sponsored by the Lancaster Festival and the New England Conservatory of Music, he is also the author of two books on music. Recent activities include completion of several commissioned works, an invited residency at West Chester University, invited participations in the Southeastern Composers League Forum and regional and national conferences of the Society of Composers, performances of works by the Richmond Chamber Players and the Virginia Beach Symphony, and international performances in Asia and South America. Principal publishers include MMB, Harkie-Coovey, and Seesaw.

mixolydian (first and third movements). The first movement follows the single-movement sonata principle, while the subsequent two movements are in one- and three-part form respectively. Each movement of the quartet has an identifiable pitch center: C for the lively first movement, F# for the tranquil second movement, and C for the agitated third movement.

"The music of *String Quartet No. 2* has been generated from a superset consisting of what might be called the chromatic octachord (01234567). Subset classes of importance include (0134), (0246), the pentatonic collection, and the chromatic hexachord (012345). A furious first movement in sonata form is followed by a lilting second movement in two-part form and a dramatic third movement in three-part form. Subtle cyclical procedures have been used to provide unity among the movements.

"*String Quartet No. 3* features music generated from the diatonic collection. Important subset classes include (013), (024), (0135), and (0137). The pastoral first movement is in sonata form; the fiery second and bouncy fourth movements are each in five-part form. The serene third movement follows the ritornello

The Oxford's passionate performances of the great works of Schubert, Beethoven and Brahms are balanced with intriguing interpretations of modern masters including Bartok, Rochberg and Ginastera. The diversity of the Quartet's programming is further enhanced by collaborations with such artists as James Tocco, Frank Glazer, the Borodin Duo, and members of the American and Cavani String Quartets.

As a member of the Ohio Arts Council's roster of touring artists since 1987, the Oxford String Quartet is a popular guest on concert series in the Midwest, and also makes frequent national concert tours. International activities include performances at the Echternach Festival in Europe and concert tours in South America.

Continuing a tradition begun in 1946, the current group holds a faculty residency at Miami University in Oxford, Ohio. There, they have coached young ensembles from all over the world, including the Veronika String Quartet (Russia) and the Cuarteto de Cuerdas América (Venezuela). The Oxford String Quartet hosts an annual summer Chamber Music Institute as part of its commitment to training the next generation of musicians.

The Oxford String Quartet has also recorded for Carlton Classics/Mastersound. This compact disc recording, a collaboration with cellist Merry Peckham, features two recently-discovered





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