

TWO EXCERPTS FROM DARK FOREST

DARK FOREST was initially intended to be a violin concerto (and probably still will be, some time in the future). The two excerpts portrayed here are the third and fourth movements of the concerto. As I began converting from concerto to quartet, I took the virtuosic violin solo part and spread the featured passages throughout the quartet. What came out is something of a group feature, with a lot of showy passages being passed around in quick succession. CHASE THROUGH THE FOREST is quick and fun, with a sneaky fast rock feel, a few thrills, and a little bit of silent movie melodrama thrown in. In the middle of the movement there is a fiddling duel, pitting the two violins against one another, with some nasty and aggressive interjections from the viola and cello. Following the intensity of the chase, THE JOURNEY HOME is basically a song, orchestrated for string quartet. It's melodic, lyrical and nostalgic, pure sentiment.