

What Did I Miss?

for Saxophone Quartet

Michael Mikulka

Jean-Baptiste Singelée wrote “Premier Quatour” in 1857, the first composition for saxophone quartet. Unfortunately, this means that there were composers during several eras of classical music which never had the opportunity to write for this now ubiquitous instrumentation! How might Bach or Mozart write for sax quartet if they came back to life today? “What Did I Miss” looks into this possibility with a series of 4 movements, each reflecting a particular era, style, or composer that was unable to write for what is now a standard instrumentation!

Movement 1 is a chorale which reflects the Baroque Era

Movement 2 is a theme and variations which reflects the Classical Era.

Movement 3 is a tone poem which reflects the Romantic Era

Movement 4 is a finale which blends the mazurka, the polonaise, and the early to mid 19th century arrival of virtuosity, culminating with snippets of the advent of the glorious ensemble you and I know well today.

