

The Hill is alive with the sound of new music for oboe.

Western Kentucky University is blessed with abundant talent. Meet Michele Fiala, Assistant Professor of Double Reeds at WKU.

The Light Wraps You: New Music for Oboe / (MSR Classics MS 1217) is Dr. Fiala's debut release.



This is a voice fresh as a crisp December morning. Her oboe is singing, playful and expansive, meeting every stated requirement in Bill Douglas' Sonata for Oboe and Piano. James MacMillan's Intersession for Three Oboes exacts virtuosic skills which Michele Fiala deftly fulfills.

Be sure to visit Phillip Bimstein's playful "Cats in the Kitchen for Flute and Oboe Plus the Kitchen Sync". "This piece is scored for flute, oboe, meows, purrs, cracked eggs, sliced onions, buttered toast, sizzling skilletts, spoons, knives, pepper grinder, toaster oven, pots, pans and draining dishwasher," Dr. Fiala explains. The whole thing is absolutely delightful, as flute and oboe dance and weave through all the sounds, and each other.

Michelle Fiala is no stranger on the international music scene, concertizing around the US, Canada and Italy as soloist, chamber musician and orchestra player. Her friends who appear with her on this disc are highly accomplished artists. Among them is bassoonist-composer-pianist Bill Douglas, who has toured and recorded for thirty years with clarinetist Richard Stoltzman. Bassoon soloist Frank Morelli is a member of the esteemed Orpheus Chamber Orchestra.

John Cipolla, Heidi Pintner and Donald Speer are all distinguished BYU music faculty. Cipolla teaches clarinet and saxophone, Pintner flute and music theory, and Speer, piano, pedagogy and accompanying.

Let this class act wrap around you. Wrap up a few copies and bless your loved ones with a cherished Christmas gift.