

Farewell Overture

for Concert Band

Composed February 5–May 7, 2016
orchestration finished August 12, 2016
Duration; about 6 minutes

I frequently write chamber versions first when composing pieces for large forces. In 2015, from January through August, I wrote for concert band. One piece was *Popular Music of Planet X*, and another was *Tilting at Windmills. A Little Poem*, from the first, and *Sevillana*, from the second, had chamber versions for woodwind quintet and piano. This is a very interesting ensemble which has had my attention for some years. After completing my *Cello Concerto* in late January, I felt it was time to write a third movement to make a complete composition for this chamber group. The new movement became the *Farewell Overture*, inspired in a way by Groucho Marx in *Animal Crackers*, and also by my uncertainty as to how much more music I will be able to write. I then arranged the overture for concert band. Work was considerably delayed by health concerns.

Frühjahrs Müdigkeit, the tempo marking, is German for a sense of listlessness brought on by the coming of spring.

This work uses one musician per part, with no sections, such as for clarinets or flutes.

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