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College of Music

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Photo credit: Owen Zhou.

Tonic Winds – *Visions*

Alex Westervelt, *flute*

Lauren Breen, *oboe*

Harold Gómez-Montoya, *clarinet*

Sophie Steger, *horn*

Ben Mangonon, *bassoon*

Saturday, April 4, 2026, 2 p.m.

Grusin Music Hall

PROGRAM

Scherzo Pour Quintette à vent, Op. 48

Eugène Bozza (1905-1991)

Cosmic Breath

Dai Fujikura (b.1977)

Partita for Wind Quintet

Irving Fine (1917-1962)

- I. Introduction and Theme
- II. Variation
- III. Interlude
- IV. Gigue
- V. Coda

Intermission

Quintet II for Woodwind Instruments

Alvin Etler (1913-1973)

- I. Andante con moto
- II. Allegro comodo
- III. Adagio
- IV. Vivace

PROGRAM NOTES

The program for tonight brings together four visions of the woodwind quintet, each showing the ensemble's ability to shift between wit, color, rhythmic energy, and expressive depth. Eugène **Bozza**'s *Scherzo pour quintette à vent* opens the concert, with lightness and agility, using playful exchanges and intricate textures to highlight the ensemble's virtuosity, and light the spark for the rest of our program. Dai **Fujikura**'s *Cosmic Breath* expands the quintet's sound into a more atmospheric realm, inviting the listener into a landscape of breath and evolving colors. The next piece draws the audience back from ponderance, as we transition to more concrete characters with Irving **Fine**'s *Partita for Wind Quintet*. His classically formed movements deliver charm, elegance, and sly humor, capturing the composer's gift for clarity and character. Lastly, we finish with Alvin **Etler**'s *Quintet II for Woodwind Instruments*. His *Quintet II* brings rhythmic drive and counterpoint to the fore, revealing the ensemble's dramatic, modernistic edge. Together, these works contrast strongly in language and style, all while celebrating the woodwind quintet as a medium of extraordinary variety and personality.

ABOUT THE PERFORMERS

The Tonic Winds, the graduate woodwind quintet-in-residence at the University of Colorado Boulder College of Music, is united by commitments to education, artistry and musical outreach. The ensemble features musicians from Alaska, Illinois, California, and Colombia. The quintet members serve as teaching assistants and mentors for the CU Boulder College of Music's vibrant applied studios and perform two recitals each year, as well as outreach programs in the Boulder community and beyond, including an educational residency with the Aspen Music Festival and School. Tonic Winds—comprising flutist Alex Westervelt, oboist Lauren Breen, clarinetist Harold Gómez-Montoya, hornist Sophie Steger, and bassoonist Ben Mangonon—are coached this semester by Professor of Bassoon Yoshi Ishikawa and other woodwind faculty.

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*The Drowsy Chaperone (2023).
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