Finding Music for Woodwind Chamber Ensembles in the Western Libraries Music Library

Much music for woodwind chamber ensembles and woodwind instruments in combination with other instruments may be found in the Western Libraries’ Music Library. Some of this music will be found in obvious locations while other important repertoire is scattered throughout the collection.

1. Finding a KNOWN piece of music

Any piece of music for which you know the composer and the title may be found by looking in the Western Libraries Catalogue:

www.lib.uwo.ca

Choose the KEYWORD (a.k.a. "Boolean") option of the Advanced Search version of the Catalogue: combine the composer’s name with a unique title, opus number, and/or thematic catalogue number, remembering to use "AND" in-between your keywords (to link desired terms).

E.g., a keyword search with:

Mozart and clarinet and 622 and part

should retrieve the piano reduction (with the clarinet part) for Mozart’s Clarinet Concerto, K. 622

If you are unsure of titles, opus or thematic catalogue numbers, refer to the various repertoire guides listed below, or consult "Works" lists in articles on Individual composers as found in The New Grove Dictionary of Music and Musicians, 2nd ed., (29 vols. - also available ONLINE).

Don't forget to look in collections of music by your composer (the library finds it cheaper and more convenient to buy all the sonatas of a composer in one volume than to purchase single sonatas, etc.)

The Western Libraries Catalogue is accessible from home, via a PC and modem (via Firefox or Internet Explorer) through your Internet service provider.

Each registered student, staff and faculty member at Western is given a Western Personal Computing Account - including an email address - through which address (ONLY) the University and the Western Libraries communicate with you.

Your login name and password are REQUIRED to access Western’s on-campus computers, and Western Libraries’ licensed electronic and online subscriptions (including journals, newspapers, books, online indexes, etc).

If you are connected to the Internet while off-campus, you MUST use our "proxy server" (use your Western PCA "name + password" - this is the same as your Western EMAIL username + password) to access our electronic resources. Fill-in the "UWO Username" and "Password" boxes located below this heading (found on the LH sidebar of our homepage):
2. Piano with ONE woodwind instrument

For information on this topic, please consult the handouts for the individual woodwinds,
  e.g.  Flute  Oboe  Clarinet  Bassoon  Horn  Saxophone , etc.

3. SEARCH by SUBJECT to find music for woodwind chamber ensembles

a. Woodwinds-only

Subject Headings are assigned by cataloguers, and are "controlled vocabulary". For a complete list of the Subjects used in the Western Libraries Catalogue please ask to see our copy of Library of Congress Subject Headings (5 large red volumes).

Searching by Subject is an extremely efficient way to find repertoire for a specific ensemble instrumentation.

WOODWIND TRIOS  WOODWIND QUARTETS  WOODWIND QUINTETS  WOODWIND SEXTETS  WOODWIND SEPTETS  WOODWIND OCTETS  WOODWIND NONETS

The instrumentation is listed in alphabetical order, not in score order, after each heading, e.g.:

WOODWIND TRIOS (BASSOON, CLARINET, OBOE)
WOODWIND SEXTETS (BASSOONS (2), CLARINETS (2), OBOE (2)) etc.

b. Woodwinds with other instruments

Ensembles consisting of one or more woodwind instruments in combination with non-woodwind instruments are considered to be mixed ensembles. The basic subjects for such ensembles are: TRIOS, QUARTETS, ... NONETS.

Exception:

Woodwind instruments with brass instruments only are found under the basic headings: WIND TRIOS, WIND QUARTETS, ... WIND NONETS, etc.

After each basic Subject Heading (QUARTETS, etc.), instruments are organized in the following order:

keyboard
winds (includes woodwinds and brasses) – these are sub-arranged alphabetically
percussion
strings (arranged in score order)

Some examples are:

TRIOS (PIANO, CLARINET, VIOLA)
QUARTETS (FLUTE, VIOLIN, VIOLA, VIOLONCELLO)
QUINTETS (BASSOON, VIOLINS (2), VIOLA, VIOLONCELLO)
WIND QUARTETS (BASSOON, CLARINET, FLUTE, HORN)
WIND QUINTETS (BASSOON, CLARINET, FLUTE, HORN, OBOE) **

** horn players, please note that this is the standard combination for the wind quintet: all instruments are listed in alphabetical order
**IMPORTANT**

When using the Western Libraries Shared Library Catalogue, be careful to input the instrumentation of the ensemble in the order explained above. Distinguish between those ensembles that consist of woodwinds alone (e.g. WOODWIND TRIOS) and mixed ensembles (e.g. TRIOS – including other instrument types).

Note that the keyboard instrument is ALWAYS listed first when there are more than two instruments in the ensemble.

4. Some useful call numbers for BROWSING the shelf

PLEASE NOTE - the following classifications are for WOODWINDS, only!

- M 357.2 – woodwind trios
- M 457.2 – woodwind quartets
- M 557.2 – woodwind quintets
- M 657.2 – woodwind sextets
- M 757.2 – woodwind septets
- M 857.2 – woodwind octets
- M 957.2 – woodwind nonets

The following class numbers are for woodwinds with keyboard or brass instruments will be found under other call numbers, e.g.:

- M 357 – Wind trios
- M 457 – Wind quartets
- M 557 – Wind quintets
- M 657 – Wind septets

REPERTOIRE lists

For assistance in identifying appropriate repertoire for woodwind chamber ensembles the following reference sources are very useful:


Divided into three sections: composers before Haydn/Mozart; composers from Beethoven to our time; Master Quick-Reference Index. Organized by composer and title, instrumentation is listed in a grid. Includes date of composition/publication, key, duration, and publisher. Also lists music for voice. Three asterisks (*** denote ANY combination of instruments. Very useful.


Impressive listing of chamber repertoire for two to 9 players, intended to be performed by one player per part. Clear, accessible, with commentaries, essays and special notes (suitable for use in programme notes). Highly recommended.


This work also includes solo works for instrumentalist. Includes brief description, degree of difficulty, duration, etc.


Much ensemble literature may also be found using the repertoire lists for individual instruments.
**HISTORY of chamber music**

The *New Grove Dictionary* (29 vols. / ONLINE) is a great place to begin your research on ANY music-related topic. Find the article on "Chamber Music" and check the bibliography at the end of the article. The Western Libraries Music Library will own many of the titles listed in the bibliography. Some particularly useful titles are:


**RECORDINGS of woodwind ensemble music**

Although most of the Western Music Library's sound recordings can be found via the WESTERN LIBRARIES SHARED LIBRARY CATALOGUE, many others cannot.

Most commercially-recorded woodwind ensemble music for which you know the composer and the title may be found by looking under KEYWORD: type single, significant words (e.g. composers’ surname, a significant word from the title of the work, the plural of the genre, and ‘compact’ for CDs, etc.), being sure to include “AND” between each KEYWORD.

If you are looking for a performance by a particular ensemble, you may type the name of the group following the Author command: *e.g.* TRIPTYCH, or ANnapolis Brass Quintet

To locate recent recordings (after first checking the Western Libraries Shared Library Catalogue – by Author (i.e. performer) or KEYWORD), please consult the Reference Librarian; the CD may not yet be ordered.

In addition to commercially-produced recordings, there are literally hundreds of Western / Don Wright Faculty of Music Student/Faculty/Guest Artist Recitals, which were taped during the period 1965 - the present.

Until 1988, or so, all Faculty of Music recitals were automatically taped for archival purposes. After that time, the process became much more selective – so that one cannot rely upon finding a tape for every single Don Wright Faculty of Music performance. Access to this collection is provided by computer-generated indexes housed on the window ledge, near the first row of the Reference Section. Should you find a performance you wish to hear, you must:

**make note of the appropriate reference number -- from the left-hand column!**

Then leave a note for Mr. Mike Godwin in his mailbox in the Main Office (T.C. 210) stating your name and the tape reference number, and ask that he place the tape in the Music Library. He will then leave the tape at the Music Library’s Circulation Desk—you may listen to same, upon surrender of appropriate identification.

**Dubbing is NOT PERMITTED in the Music Library**, but you can make arrangements to purchase copies (of recital tapes ONLY) by applying at the Faculty of Music Main Office (T.C. 210). [[Recital tapes may not be taken away from the Music Library.]]

**RELATED HANDOUTS**

- Flute
- Oboe
- Clarinet
- Bassoon
- Saxophone
- Horn
- Piano Ensembles

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