

## Abstract

Heitor Villa-Lobos's published works for winds span forty-one years, and include thirteen chamber works and two works for large wind orchestra. The wind works showcase Villa-Lobos's eclectic and avant-garde compositional style, achieved through his use of uncommon instrumental combinations and a compositional language that includes a wide range of vernacular and contemporary techniques.

This presentation examines salient aspects of Villa-Lobos's life and personality, and then looks at his compositional style including his use of orchestration, melody, rhythm, ostinato and exoticism as they apply specifically to his writing for wind instruments. Finally, Villa-Lobos's large-scale work for wind orchestra, *Concerto Grosso for Woodwind Quartet and Wind Orchestra* is introduced.

Written shortly before Villa-Lobos's death, the *Concerto Grosso* reveals a musically mature composer. For wind conductors, who continuously search for new repertoire of high quality, the *Concerto Grosso* stands as an excellent example of the work of an internationally acclaimed South American composer and merits more modern performances.