

“Birds”

Program Notes

Herman Beeftink is a Dutch-American composer, born in the Netherlands in 1953 and now living in Los Angeles. “Birds”, a three-movement composition written in 2017, tells the story of three birds and their seasonal migration.

“Birds” opens with a motif that mimics a beckoning bird, who calls out to a sleepy, morning forest. The woods awaken, and two other birds join the music, developing a moving bel-canto melody. In the second movement, the three birds lively chirp from their branches, brewing adventure and anticipation. In the final movement, after a reflective and melancholic opening, the journey begins!