

“John Muir – University of the Wilderness” is a piece created by composer/performers Ed Willett and Cheryl Leah and is one which exists both as a chamber music piece (created and debuted in 2014 for their quartet “The Chance Ensemble”) and as the piece you see here, a shorter version, orchestrated by Willett for chamber orchestra and soloists (debuted in 2016). Willett and Leah have performed the chamber music version of this program over 50 times throughout the U.S. and in Scotland and it remains an integral part of the duo’s Fine Arts touring.

Orchestration:

Solo ensemble: Violin, Cello, Alto and Narrator

Strings – (a minimum of 6,6,6,4,2)

1 Flute, 1 Clarinet, 1 French Horn, 1 Trumpet

1 Percussion - Instrument requirements:

Timpani – 30” and 23”, Snare, Suspended Cymbal, Frame Drum, Marimba. (Drums other than the Frame Drum can be used if so desired. The intent is to emulate the sound of the Irish drum, the Bodhran).

This performance requires sound reinforcement for the Narrator and the ensemble.