Wrong-Mountain Stomp

(2004)

for violin, viola, and cello

1. Mama, I'm Leavin'

II. Billy, I'm Leavin

R John Mackey

Vail Valley Music Festival Vail, Colorado

Premiered July 13, 2004, Vail Music Festival. Jennifer Koh, violin Amadi Hummings, viola Raman Ramakrishnan, cello

WRONG-MOUNTAIN STOMP

Wrong-Mountain Stomp tells the story of Jenny, a young woman who has spent her entire life in the hills of Appalachia. Although Appalachia is beautiful, Jenny longs for something bigger. At the very least, she longs for bigger mountains. Thus, she decides to pack her things and move to the beautiful mountain resort town of Vail, Colorado. *

Movement I: "Mama, I'm Leavin'": Jenny, who has always lived at home, tells her mother that she's fed up in her small town with small mountains, and she's leavin'. Being a 17 year old teenager, though, Jenny gets rather sassy with her mother, some unfortunate things are said, and Jenny storms out.

Movement 2: "Billy, I'm Leavin": Jenny has a serious boyfriend, Billy. Although she knows it will be painful, Jenny goes to Billy to tell him that she's leavin'. It breaks Jenny's heart to leave Billy, but Billy, who has always worn his emotions on his sleeve, has an even harder time when he hears the news. In this movement, the role of Jenny is played by the violin, and the role of Billy is played by the cello.

Movement 3 : "This Train's Leavin' " : With her bags packed, Jenny goes to the train station and boards the train for Vail. "All 'board," calls the conductor, "cause This Train's Leavin'." **

* This work was commissioned by the Vail Valley Music Festival in – you guessed it – Vail, Colorado.

** The composer acknowledges that there is, in fact, no direct train service from the hills of Appalachia to the Rocky Mountains, and that, realistically, Jenny would probably have to take a bus to Vail, but writing music that portrays bus travel is simply no fun.

Wrong-Mountain Stomp

I. Mama, I'm Leavin'









































