

Ananda Trio

for Violin, Viola, and Violoncello

Composed September 11—November 15, 2010

Duration: about 18 minutes

cover art: lower image, CERN particle detector

Originally, this trio was intended as a kind of sketch for the first three movements of a symphony, which would have an extra movement as a finale. Soon after finishing this trio, I came down with a lingering case of bronchitis, and reconsidered the prospects of the larger scale version. In time the idea for expansion to a symphony died away, especially as the trio was quite idiomatic for the three instruments.

This trio originally had the title *Birthday Trio* because the potential fourth movement of the symphony would be based on a speech by Martin Luther King—who, like me, was born on January 15. However now I am using that name for the *Birthday Symphony*, and am naming this trio after Ananda-Eric Pritchard, as one of a series of works written with him in mind.

The second movement's title refers to the famous bicycle ride of Dr. Albert Hofmann, respected Swiss chemist, who took the world's first acid trip in 1943. He died at age 102 in 2008.

The third movement reflects the dark, cold part of the year, which I find particularly difficult due to my arthritis; North Carolina is about as far north as I care to live.

This trio was first performed at Duke University on February 22, 2011 by Eric Pritchard, violin; Yoram Youngerman, viola; and Elizabeth Marshall, cello. The violin part is Eric's edition.

Bill Robinson

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