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HEADLINE: Music by George Perle

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BODY:

Composer George Perle was in good company last night at the Terrace Theater. The **Dorian Wind Quintet**, pianist Michael Boriskin and cellist Andre' Emelianoff exceeded high expectations for this all-Perle concert. They understand what the composer wants and communicated his ideas provocatively, with an authority that is customary in performances of mainstream repertoire works, but much rarer when a program contains pieces written primarily within the last three years.

Boriskin gave the world premiere of Suite in C, a witty, meditative, explosive five movements packed into 12 minutes. His reading of "Six New Etudes," barely 10 minutes long, was an amazing example of compressed energy, notably in the final perpetuum mobile movement. The score's extreme demands made no difference to Boriskin, whose speed and dexterity brought a gasp from the crowd.

He and Emelianoff joined forces in the Sonata for Cello and Piano. The cello dominates, and Emelianoff used a brash, yearning tone to highlight melodic ideas that recall Bartok.

The Dorian Wind Quintet opened and closed the evening with Perle's First (1959) and Fourth (1984) Wind Quintets. No. 1 alternately emphasizes linear and chordal writing, and assigns major importance to the bassoon. No. 4, the 1986 Pulitzer Prize winner, explores a wider variety of group sonorities and reserves its greatest weightiest moments for the middle movements. As Perle explained at the postconcert reception, his real prize is having such dedicated musicians supporting his efforts. Perle's prize is one that the audience shares.
