

More About REMEMBER THE RAINBOW

This short flute solo had its origins back in 1986, when I was teaching English at a university in Harbin, China. During winter break, my family and I took an unescorted trip around the country, visiting several “off-the-tourist-trail” locations. We were able to do this because we were living and working in the country, so we had official “work cards” and documents from our university that opened doors normally closed to foreign tourists.

So it was that Chinese New Year found us in the Southwestern city of Kunming, and on that day, I jotted down several original themes in which I tried to capture the style and spirit of the local music. I later used two of them in a pair of companion solo-with-piano pieces, of which this is the second. The other is **Spring Soliloquy** for violin and piano.

The difference with **Remember the Rainbow**, besides it being easier and for a different instrument, is that I did not actually compose it until many years later, starting with the theme that I had created that day in Kunming. I also connected the two solos by using a couple of secondary motifs from the first piece in the second one. This thematic linkage may seem a little subtle on first hearing, but if you listen closely to both compositions back-to-back, you will pick it up.

Oh, and unlike **Spring Soliloquy** not originally written for such an occasion, this one DID get played at 2 weddings...one of them my own!