Townsville Flute Quartet Opus 1

(Notes by the composer Dr. David Salisbury)

This is an original flute quartet that I started a year ago on my birthday, 20 May 2007 and is specifically aimed at musically identifying iconic sights in Townsville

There are three movements to the piece.

Movement I

"Castle Hill Goat Track" has musical moments that represent parrots and sounds of Townsville first thing in the morning, audiences will hear people walking up and down Castle Hill at various paces.

Movement II

"Queens Gardens" with some sounds that have a bit of mystery to them and represent walking through various locations in the park such as the "Rainforest" track and the aviary or rose garden.

Movement III

"Cape Pallarenda", musically describes activities such as the kite board riders going back and forth across the beach and children playing by the waterside.

Each movement is around seven minutes long so in total it's around 22 minutes in length and will be performed by Townsville's Seranata Quartet.

Seranata Quartet Flutist Megan Franklin said she was looking forward to performing the piece for the first time.

"Seranata has been performing across the region for the last nine years

and we're honoured to be a part of this unique and special event."

"It's a world premiere of music that depicts the Townsville community," Megan said. "It's wonderful that someone can have the imagination and the initiative to create something that's so unique."

Serenata is "Beautiful Music for flute and strings".

The performers are...

FLUTE - Mégan Franklin studied the flute and piccolo with Jeanette Manricks, at the University of Queensland in Brisbane, and at The Canberra School of Music under Vernon Hill and Virginia Taylor. She has toured internationally with the Australian Wind Orchestra, and appears on CDs produced by the Australian Wind Orchestra, and the Jade Label (performing chamber music by Australian composers) and on the sound track of the DVD "Coral Seas". Megan is currently president of the Barrier Reef Orchestra.

VIOLIN - Margaret Caley is a professional violinist, early music specialist, and music educator, and is currently based in Townsville. Margaret has performed as a violinist and violist in professional orchestras and chamber music ensembles, both in Australia and in Europe. After completing music degrees in Toowoomba, Brisbane, and Hobart, she studied baroque violin and completed the Baroque Certificate at the Royal Conservatory, the Hague, the Netherlands. Returning to Australia in 1992, she founded the Ensemble of the Golden Age, presented concerts, and performed in live broadcasts for ABC-Classic FM. She has performed with many of Australia's leading early music ensembles, including the Brandenburg Orchestra, the Song Company, the Sydney Chamber Choir, and the Sirius Ensemble.

VIOLA - Jan Stuart-Street has received acclaim as a performer in Australia, New Zealand, America and Jamaica. She has been placed in international competitions including Second Place in the Gisborne Solo Wind, String and Brass Competition (New Zealand). Jan toured Jamaica as a member of the Boston Conservatory Honors Quartet. Jan holds her Masters of Music and Graduate Performance Certificate from The Boston Conservatory, where she studied with Patricia McCarty, and a B. Mus from the Qld Conservatorium of Music, studying with Elizabeth Morgan.

CELLO - Liam Morrissey is an active participant in the Australian contemporary music scene. He received his BMus from the Australian National University in 2007, having completed his studies in cello under Australian greats David Pereira and Julian Smiles. Since then, as well as a busy career as a freelance cellist between Canberra, Sydney and Townsville, he has undertaken private composition studies with Larry Sitsky and Jim Cotter, which have led to the numerous commissions.