Piece Title: *Pendant*
Composer: Werner Heider
Performer: Benjamin Fraley

Werner Heider is a German composer, pianist, and conductor who was born on January 1, 1930. His composition style has been described as very unique and specific, as well as utilizing a third stream-like combination of contemporary music and jazz. In 1980, Werner Heider composed *Zwei Stücke* for solo marimba in dedication to the City of Erlangen and Andrea Schneider. *Zwei Stücke* includes two separate solos, *Laudate Lignum* and *Pendant*. Both pieces are entities unto themselves and are very challenging. *Pendant* can either be performed after *Laudate Lignum* or as a separate piece.

The second definition of a pendant (the first being a piece of jewelry that hangs from a chain worn around the neck) is an artistic, literary, or musical composition intended to match or complement another. *Pendant* is so named because Werner Heider must have felt that after he wrote *Laudate Lignum*, the second piece of the collection was just that, a pendant. The work focuses on timbre and gestures; the performer is instructed to use two different pairs of mallets throughout the piece: 1 pair of soft marimba mallets and 1 pair of wooden xylophone mallets. Specific note heads are used to instruct which notes are to be struck with which mallets. In addition, specific articulation notation is given to instruct the performer to use the ends of the xylophone mallets, arpeggiate, dead strike, play staccato or tenuto, rallentando, ritardando, glissando, and tremolo. To further cement the namesake connection between *Pendant* and *Laudate Lignum*, the performer is instructed to vocalize Latin words throughout the piece. Heider instructs, “The fifty-eight different Latin words used in the composition should be thought of as a rhythmical linguistic addition (impulse), in each case having the value of a quaver.” The Latin words are either spoken softly or with a toneless whisper. –Ben Fraley