A caprice is something which is constantly changing and shifting, tending to the erratic or unpredictable. This is reflected in this work. The melody is constantly passed from one instrument to another, sometimes within a single phrase. The time signatures in this piece also change many times, alternating from 7/8 to 6/8 to 3/8.

Caprice was originally written as a trio for Bb clarinet, oboe, and bassoon. However, due to the intricacy and continuous movement of the piece, Mr. Smallman decided to rescore it for woodwind quintet. The result offers the performers greater opportunity to breathe, as well as a wider variety of sound. Each instrument is highlighted in this work.
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