Composition Assignment 3

Due: Friday, February 4

Description: Short piece for piano, using quartal harmonies

Directions:
1. Examine the following pieces (on reserve in library):
   a. William Schuman: Three-Score Set, no. 1
   b. Bela Bartók, Mikrokosmos, vol. 5, no. 131 ("Fourths")
   c. Darius Milhaud, "The Cat" from The Household Muse
   d. Paul Hindemith, "Un Cygne" from Six Chansons
2. Write a very short piano piece that uses chords built on fourths. Build the piece around a short 3- to 5-note motive.

Specifications:
1. For piano solo
2. 18-26 measures in length
3. In a texture similar to Schuman example
4. Make use of chords build on fourths
   a. Fourth may stacked, or may be inverted (as they are in the Schuman piece, for example)
   b. Not every chord has to be quartal
   c. Chords built on perfect fourths, augmented fourths, or a combination are encouraged
5. Unify the piece by use of recurring motive
6. Use correct notation for piano

Grading criteria:
1. Musical interest
2. Effective use of unifying motive
3. Variety within context
4. Use of quartal harmony
5. Formal logic (shape)
6. Originality
7. Effectiveness of piano writing
8. Notation