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Riffs and Echoes (2004)

Riffs and Echoes derives its material from a simple common blues riff. The first notes played by the clarinet present the riff. From there, various harmonic and rhythmic permutations continually transform the riff's context until the piece quietly echoes away at the end. The piece was composed for Luna Nova, a new music ensemble based in Texas.

BIO:

Robert G. Patterson is a composer living in Memphis, Tennessee. His music is infused with the popular rhythms and melodic fragments around him, and these provide source material for his own voice. Recent commissions from the Iris Chamber Orchestra and the National Symphony Orchestra confirm an emerging interest in his innovative musical style that has led to performances in Europe, Asia, and Africa, as well as across the United States and Canada.

Patterson holds degrees from the University of Pennsylvania, the University of Memphis, and Oberlin College, having studied composition with George Crumb, Richard Wernick, and Don Freund. His compositions have received numerous awards, including the University of Michigan Bands Commission, the International Composition Prize from the City of Tarragona in Spain, and the Distinguished Composer of the Year award from the Music Teachers National Association.

In addition to his musical activities, Patterson also helps develop PC-based hotel software for Hilton Hotels, and his interest in computers has led him to become an expert in musical engraving using a computer. His Patterson Plug-Ins Collection for Finale software has become a staple of composers worldwide.