



Absolutely!

by Omar Lopez

You've heard almost everything.

Mendelssohn's Wedding March. Pachelbel's Canon in D. Lohengrin, Act III. But Journey's "Don't Stop Believin'?" By flute?

Absolutely.

It's fresh, it's modern, it's meaningful – and it's a wedding option in South Texas.

In the quest to add a unique, classical, live music element to the wedding day, some Brides would create any kind of musical group imaginable. Absolutely, a South Texas flute quartet, does all the work for you.

Created by local professional musician Paul Klemm, Absolutely is a flute quartet that plays anything and everything a Bride requests – including Journey. The group plays traditional wedding music, but since all of the selections must be custom arranged for a flute quartet, they play just about anything – even rock. Klemm, one of the flutists and founder of the group, says it's a nice 'extra' the group can give to the Bride. While some musicians charge for custom arrangements of classical songs to fit the mood or theme of the wedding, Absolutely does it free of charge.



"When we started a few years ago, we knew we would be unique – you really couldn't find flute quartets in South Texas," Klemm said. "The fact that we can play and arrange just about anything is pretty special. We try to accommodate anything the Bride or Groom would request, and we can usually do it because we have to compose the arrangement of the music ourselves. We do that free for the couple."

Klemm originally aimed to make the group all male, all bald. He only found three bald flute players in Corpus Christi. Go figure.

He teamed up with three other professional flute players, and since then, the woodwind group is quickly finding itself in demand. Just as beautiful as strings, but more organic in nature, Absolutely brings a new element to the wedding atmosphere.

"You really could say we are the ultimate a cappella group," Klemm said. "We are primarily an indoor group – the sound just carries better that way – and we are usually not using microphones. Whenever we play a song, we start from scratch to create a four-part arrangement. The sound is really beautiful, and it adds to the wedding."

Klemm and the other players in the group are professional musicians, which he says elevates the performance tremendously. As opposed to some musicians who play as a hobby, Klemm said all of the players are professional musicians who practice their craft daily. When they meet, he says it's usually to run through, perfect, and



polish. With a four-part harmony, Klemm says the sounds and performance take the wedding to another level of sophistication.

"When you deal with professional musicians, it really is a great experience," he said. "We are professionals. We do this for a living. We all have our pet projects, but we practice on our own everyday. When we practice as a group, we really are prepared. It's a very unique sound, and it's perfect for a wedding."

To contact Absolutely, call Paul Klemm at 361-563-3539 or visit www.absolutelyquartet.com.



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