

Aldo Forte

Composition

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Aldo Rafael Forte is Adjunct Professor of Composition at Christopher Newport University in Newport News, Virginia and Composer/Arranger with the United States Air Force Heritage of America Band at Langley AFB, VA. Forte is an internationally renown composer with many published and recorded works to his credit. Born in Havana, Cuba, Forte came to the United States at the age of nine and is now a citizen of the U.S.A. He spent his formative years in Huntsville, Alabama and was introduced to music at an early age by his father, a professor of mathematics and amateur classical guitarist and guitar maker. Forte credits the encouragement of both of his parents, Dr. Aldo Forte and Maria Forte, with his active pursuit of composition.

Forte has studied composition with Ross Lee Finney, William Presser, and Robert Jager. He holds music degrees from Tennessee Technological University and the University of Southern Mississippi.

Forte has composed a variety of works ranging from chamber pieces to major compositions for band and orchestra. He has received commissions from many musical ensembles. His works have been performed and/or recorded by such diverse groups as the Southwest German Radio Orchestra, the Filharmonie Bohuslav Martinu Orchestra of the Czech Republic, the Alabama Symphony Orchestra, the North Carolina Symphony Orchestra, and by many bands including those of The University of Georgia, Indiana University of Pennsylvania, The University of North Texas, Kansas State University, the Piedmont Wind Symphony of Winston-Salem, NC, the Mobile Symphonic Pops Band, the University of Alabama, the USAF Heritage of America Band, and "The President's Own" United States Marine Band. Internationally his band works have been performed by the National Dutch Youth Wind Band, the Militarmusik der Voralberg of Bregenz, Austria, the Wind Ensemble of the Queensland Conservatorium in South Bank, Queensland, Australia, and the University Wind Orchestra of the Western Australia Academy of Performing Arts in Perth. His music has been heard at such places as Carnegie Recital Hall in New York City, the

J.F.K. Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, DC, and at numerous music conventions including MEA conventions in Kansas, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, Tennessee, Kentucky, New Mexico, several CBDNA/NBA regional conventions, and at the Mid-West International Band and Orchestra Clinic in Chicago, IL. Several All State Bands including those of Texas, Tennessee, New Mexico, Minnesota, and Kentucky have performed his music.

Forte is a member of ASCAP and is the recipient of several ASCAP Special Awards. He was awarded First Place in the 2001 National Federation of Music Clubs *American Music in the United States Armed Forces Composition Competition*. He has also received composition fellowships from the Cintas Foundation and the Alabama State Council on the Arts. Forte's music is recorded on Mark Records, Bayer Records (Qualiton Imports), Klavier Records, Summit Records, the German labels Deutsche Schallplatten Berlin and Smalltown Records, and on many Air Force Band recordings. Among the publishers of his music are TRN, Ludwig, Kjos, C. Alan Publications, BLM Music Productions of The Netherlands, Daehn Publications, Masters Music Publications, and Studio Music Company of the UK.

LATEST AND UPCOMING PERFORMANCES / GUEST APPEARANCES

Nassau County All County Music Festival, Stephen Melillo, Cond performance of Movements III. and IV. from "***Olympus***" - Long Island, NY

Feb. 2003 - University of Puget Sound Wind Ensemble, Bob Musser Cond, 2 performances of "***Impressionist Prints***" - Tacoma, WA

Feb. 27-28 2003 - Southwest Baptist University Symphonic Winds, Gregg Thaller, Cond. 3 performances of "***The Thunderbirds***" on Concert Tour in Missouri - St. Louis, Eureka, and Wildwood, MO

Mar. 2003 - University of Alabama Wind Ensemble, Gerald Welker, Cond., performance of "***Symphony for the Millennium***" - Tuscaloosa, AL

Mar. 11, 2003 - Southwest Baptist University Symphonic Winds, Gregg Thaller, Cond. performance of "***The Thunderbirds***", Pike Auditorium, Bolivar, MO

Mar. 14, 2003 - University of St. Thomas Symphonic Wind Ensemble, world premiere of **"DALI"**, Matthew George, Cond. - St. Paul, MN

Mar. 22 - 26, 2003 - USAF American Clarinet Quartet, 6 performances of **"Petite Suite for Clarinet Quartet"** during tour of North Carolina - Elizabeth City, Washington, Kinston, Williamston, and New Bern, NC

Mar. 30, 2003 150th Birthday of Vincent Van Gogh, Brass Band "De Vooruitgang", Frans Lemmens, Cond., performs **"Van Gogh Portraits"** in Nuenen, The Netherlands where Van Gogh lived and worked from 1883-1885. This brass band transcription by the composer was commissioned by the Van Gogh Documentation Centre in Nuenen to celebrate this event - Nuenen, The Netherlands

Apr. 2003 - Indiana University of Pennsylvania Wind Ensemble, Jack Stamp, Cond., performance of **"Impressionist Prints"** - Indiana, PA

Apr. 5, 2003 National Dutch Youth Wind Band performs entire concert of Forte's music. Forte conducts his **"Van Gogh Portraits"**, **"Canzonetta for Euphonium and Band"**, and **"Dance Suite on Spanish and Latin Rhythms"**. Alex Schillings conducts **"Concerto for Soprano Saxophone and Band"** with saxophonist Linda Arnoldus as soloist. The Helikon Saxophone Quartet plays **"American Sketches"** - Royal Conservatory of Music, The Hague, The Netherlands

Apr. 11, 2003 - Southwest Baptist University Symphonic Winds, Gregg Thaller, Cond. performance of **"The Thunderbirds"** - Stockton High School, Stockton, MO

Apr. 24, 2003 - University of South Alabama Symphony Band, Greg Gruner, Cond. performance of **"Dance Suite on Spanish and Latin Rhythms"** - Mobile, AL

May 2, 2003 - Militarmusik der Voralberg, Karl Gamper, Cond. performance of band transcription of Movement I. (trans. by Forte) and III. (trans. by Gamper) of **"Concerto for Horn and Orchestra"** - Bregenz, Austria

May 11, 2003 - Helikon Saxophone Quartet, performance of **"American Sketches for Saxophone Quartet"** - Cultureel Cafe Bacchus, Aalsmeer, The Netherlands

May 31, 2003 - York River Symphony Orchestra, Ann Argodale, Cond., premiere performance of Forte's orchestral transcription of the first movement , "*The Potato Eaters*", from his popular band work "***Van Gogh Portraits***" - Yoder Barn, Newport News, VA

June 1, 2003 - York River Symphony Orchestra, Ann Argodale, Cond., second performance of Forte's orchestral transcription of the first movement , "*The Potato Eaters*", from his popular band work "***Van Gogh Portraits***" - Emmanuel Episcopal Church, Hampton, VA

June 6, 2003 - University Wind Orchestra of the Western Australia Academy of Performing Arts, Neil Coy, Cond., in the Australian premiere of "***Van Gogh Portraits***" - Mount Lawley, Western Australia

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