



BOSTON UNIVERSITY WIND ENSEMBLE

Thursday, March 5, 2020

Tsai Performance Center

March 5, 2020
Tsai Performance Center

BOSTON UNIVERSITY WIND ENSEMBLE

David Martins, *conductor*

Symphonic Overture, Op. 80 James Barnes (b. 1949)

Hold this Boy and Listen Carter Pann (b. 1972)

French Impressions Guy Woolfenden (1937–2016)

- I. Parade
- II. Can Can

Intermission

*Professor Andrew Shenton, Director of the BU Messiaen Project,
will provide introductory remarks for the next work.*

Oiseaux exotiques Oliver Messiaen (1908–1992)

Gila Goldstein, *piano*

Dance Suite on Aldo Rafael Forte (b. 1953)

Spanish and Latin Rhythms

- I. La Corrida – The Bullfight
- II. El Baile – The Dance
- III. La Comparsa – The Carnival

PROGRAM NOTES

However, even more than the form and the rhythms, it is important to hear the colours of the sounds and see them internally. In the second tutti, orange mixed with gold and red are in the horn part; green and gold are found in the first and last piano cadenzas; the central tutti mixes engulfed rainbows in spirals of colour: blue and red tones; orange and green, violet and purple...

—Composer's Preface to the Score, trans. Grant Chorley

Dance Suite on Spanish and Latin Rhythms

Dance Suite on Spanish and Latin Rhythms was written for and dedicated to the Tactical Air Command (TAC) Band and its commander at the time, Col. Lowell E. Graham at Langley Air Force Base (AFB), Virginia in 1991. The work contrasts and combines Latin-American and Spanish musical elements and is presented in three movements:

I: La Corrida—The Bullfight, which features a challenging piccolo trumpet solo in the Spanish Bravura musical style

II: El Baile—The Dance, explores a variety of moods, ranging from tango-like rhythms to brief developmental devices

III: La Comparsa—The Carnival, inspired by conga music of the Cuban carnival season and contrasts these elements with a lively Spanish three-quarter time.

Dance Suite is scored for standard concert band instrumentation and utilizes a wide array of Latin-American percussion instruments including bongos, claves, maracas and castanets.

—Notes from the Score

Aldo Rafael Forte is an internationally renowned composer with many published and recorded original compositions to his credit. His works have been performed by some of the best ensembles in the world. Born in Havana, Cuba on June 4, 1953 he came to the U.S. at the age of nine. Forte was introduced to music by his father, a professor of mathematics and amateur classical guitarist and guitar maker. Forte credits the encouragement of his parents, Dr. Aldo Forte and Maria Forte, with his active pursuit of music.

He began playing trombone at 10 years of age and by 13 was composing little ditties to play with his cousins. Raised in Huntsville, Alabama, he attended Lee High School and wrote two marches for the high school band while there.

PROGRAM NOTES

Forte attended Tennessee Tech University (BME 1975). At the time his primary emphasis was the trombone, but all the while he continued to compose and studied composition with Robert Jager. Later, while a graduate student at the University of Southern Mississippi (MME 1977), he began shifting his focus to composition, studying with William Presser. Later he studied composition with Ross Lee Finney at the University of Alabama (post graduate work).

During the 1970's, he worked as a middle and high school band director and as a freelance trombonist, teaching private lessons in low brass and playing local shows. In 1980, he began a 26-year career as Staff Composer and Arranger in the USAF Band career field, eventually retiring from the USAF Heritage of America Band at Langley AFB, Virginia in 2006.

Equally at home composing original works for symphony orchestra, concert band, and chamber music, Forte has amassed a catalogue of compositions in various genres, some self-published by his own company, Aldo Forte Music Press, while many others appear in the catalogues of such publishers as Kjos, TRN, Studio Music (UK), C. Alan, Daehn, Ludwig Masters, and Tuba-Euphonium Press.

Forte is a member of the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers (ASCAP), the World Association of Symphonic Bands and Ensembles (WASBE), and the National Band Masters Association (NBA).

—aldoforte.com, ed. Cheryl Przytula