

## ***DYNAMO!***

**Aldo Rafael Forte**

- I. Beginnings***
- II. Fanfare***
- III. The Ogre***
- IV. Tropical Tubas***
- V. Energized***

*DYNAMO!* is dedicated “to R. Winston Morris in honor of the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Tennessee Tech Tuba – Euphonium Ensemble”. From the moment I first heard about this project from Mark Morette of Mark Custom , I stated that my contribution to this endeavor would be titled *DYNAMO!*, after the constant energy that R. Winston has exhibited and continues to exhibit in his pursuit of the development and advancement of the Tennessee Tech Tuba – Euphonium Ensemble during the past 40 years. Even in his old age (just joking), Winston does not seem to slow down in his never ending quest to take this medium to ever new heights! I have known Winston since I was a freshman at Tech in 1971 and throughout the past 35 years I have been willingly conned (joking again) into writing five works for his various musical projects. I am honored to be a part of this historic endeavor!

*DYNAMO!* is about 8 min. in duration and is cast in five sections. Each succeeding section is faster than the previous one. It is scored for 4 Euphonium parts, 4 Tuba parts, and 2 percussionists which play a large assortment of percussion instruments. The piece was completed in July 2006. *DYNAMO!* musically depicts some of the history of the Tennessee Tech Tuba – Euphonium Ensemble.

*Beginnings* opens the work with murky and dark harmonies creating an unfocused atmosphere symbolizing the first rehearsals of the tuba ensemble 40 years ago when the group was treading on largely uncharted musical territory. Tuba 1 solos lend a quasi improvisatory feel to the opening measures of the piece. Intervals of the sixth (m. 16) compete with whole tone passages (m. 14) and heroic gestures (m. 20). The music becomes more focused just as the initial idea of a tuba ensemble became more crystallized.

*Fanfares* announces and celebrates the full flowering of the tuba ensemble. This section peaks out with double tonguing and dotted rhythms and ends in a fermata which cadences in Eb major.

Through its chromaticism and tritones coupled with its menacing rhythms, *The Ogre* is indeed a brash, vulgar, and menacing march. Ogre is defined as – one who is felt to be particularly cruel, brutish, or hideous. Here the ogre is Winston himself as the demanding director who does not put up with mediocre playing from anyone and will go to GREAT lengths to achieve perfection!!!

The fourth section, *Tropical Tubas*, has a decidedly Caribbean flavor and shows off the versatility that the TTU Tuba Ensemble has been known for during its 40 year history. Latin percussion add to the flavor of this section.

The final section, *Energized*, is a musical tribute to Winston’s boundless and ceaseless energy in his pursuit of the never ending development of the tuba ensemble. Thus, the work ends on a positive and exciting note!

Special thanks to: R. Winston Morris for all his great interpretations of my music through the years; Mark Morette for our initial conversation about this project and for his superb production of several CDs containing my music.

Aldo Rafael Forte  
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