

SEGUIDILLAS

"Repetitions and Ostinatos for Tuba Ensemble"

Aldo Rafael Forte

Seguidillas – "Repetitions and Ostinatos for Tuba Ensemble" was commissioned by Stephen E. Panoff for R. Winston Morris and *Symphonia*. Mr. Panoff is a band director in Yorktown, Virginia. Through his philanthropic efforts, he has greatly enriched the literature for brass instruments by commissioning several works for brass ensemble. He is co-director of the Brass Menagerie, an all-star brass group based in the Hampton Roads area of Virginia.

Seguidillas (literally, something that repeatedly goes on and on with seemingly no end) is a high energy piece consisting of a variety of persistent repetitive motifs outlining intervals of the third. Forte is an avid jogger and has based the driving tempo of the entire work on the pace he keeps while jogging a mile in nine minutes. Virtually every measure of the work is centered around the pitch of "c" and the rhythmic "jogging" ostinato of half-note plus two quarter-notes (in cut time) which opens the piece. A euphonium solo midway through the composition provides relief from the "jogging" motif. Eventually, however, the motif returns stronger than ever to close out the work. *Seguidillas* is imbued with a decidedly Spanish flavor.

The piece is scored for four euphonium and four tuba parts. The score also calls for two optional percussion parts featuring an array of percussion instruments including tambourine, timbales, maracas, and mounted castanets. *Seguidillas* was written in November, 1995 especially for *Symphonia's* first recording and for their concert appearance at the 1995 International Midwest Band and Orchestra Clinic in Chicago, Illinois.

Aldo Rafael Forte was born in Havana, Cuba in 1953. He has studied composition with Ross Lee Finney, William Presser and Robert Jager. He received his undergraduate degree from Tennessee Tech and his masters from 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 composition fellowships from the Cintas Foundation and the Alabama State Council on the Arts as well as commissions from such diverse groups as the Southwest German Radio Orchestra and *Symphonia*, a premier tuba ensemble. His works have been performed and recorded by such groups as the Alabama Symphony Orchestra, the Southwest German Radio Orchestra, the Filharmonie Bohuslav Martinu Orchestra of the Czech Republic, and the USAF ACC Heritage of America Band. His music is published by Neil A. Kjos, Ludwig Music, TUBA Press, Edition Fouquet, and Masters Music Publications. He has worked as staff composer/arranger for various U.S. Air Force bands since 1980. He is currently Staff Arranger and Composer with the USAF ACC Heritage of America Band at Langley AFB, Virginia and adjunct professor of composition at Christopher Newport University in Newport News, Virginia.

Seguidillas is published and available through Masters Music Publications, Inc.

ADAGIO AND RONDO

Aldo Rafael Forte

Adagio and Rondo was composed in 1973 when the composer was a student at Tennessee Tech University. The piece is dedicated to R. Winston Morris and the TTU Tuba Ensemble.

Adagio and Rondo consists of two contrasting sections, both of which largely derive their thematic material from the two measure motif which opens the work. The first section, "Adagio," is slow and rather mysterious in nature. Later an accelerando gives way to the second section, a classically structured and spirited "Rondo" in a "too fast" allegro-vivace "double tongue" tempo!

Adagio and Rondo is published by TUBA Press.