

Musical Arts

CONCERT SERIES 2018-2019

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC
LAIDLAW PERFORMING ARTS CENTER RECITAL HALL

The Piano Music of David Z. Durant

featuring

**Jerry Alan Bush, Micah Durant, Robert Holm,
and LeeArron Klosterman**

D'Olive (2008)

David Z. Durant (b. 1957)

Jerry Alan Bush

Four Inventions (2004-2005)

Robert Holm

Twilight Reflections (2004)

LeeArron Klosterman

The Shadow's Soft Edge (2011)

Robert Holm

Apophenia (2017)

Micah Durant

Premiere Performance

After the Impact (2014)

Robert Holm

Dreams at Dawn: Light Curving in the Sky (2010)

Jerry Alan Bush

The Thirty-fifth Concert of Academic Year 2018-2019

Thursday, February 7, 2019

7:30 p.m.

NOTES

I titled *D'Olive* (2008) after the D'Olive surname on my father's side of my family. The Durants have been in the Baldwin and Mobile county areas since the late 18th century. There is a D'Olive creek on the Eastern Shore and numerous streets by that name.

Four Inventions (2004-2005) are a homage to J.S. Bach's *Inventions* and are patterned after the Peter's Urtext Edition of them. They are two-voice pieces without any tempo, dynamic, or articulation markings. *Invention One* was the first piece I wrote after we moved to Mobile for me to start teaching at USA.

Twilight Reflections (2004) was written at the same time as *Invention One* and was the first piece I dedicated to Jerry Alan Bush. In those early years, I spent many afternoons writing music on our deck as I watched the sunset over the lake.

The Shadow's Soft Edge (2011) refers to a thought that we can almost see in the shadows but can't quite get our mind around.

Apophenia (2017), the most recent of my piano works, is premiered tonight by our oldest son, Micah. Seeing patterns or connections in random or meaningless data was coined in 1958 by the German neurologist, Klaus Conrad, who considered it to be a psychotic thought process. These days apophenia is viewed as a common part of human nature.

After the Impact (2014) is a non-linear sonic exploration of the moments following an impact: either the process of reorganizing one's thoughts after being struck solidly on the head or a metaphor for the thoughts or occurrences subsequent to an impactful event.

Dreams at Dawn: Light Curving in the Sky (2010) refers to my trying to understand Einstein's *Theory of Relativity*, then awakening from a dream with an experience of the surreal idea of light bending.

I am grateful to my USA family and my own son for performing these works tonight. It is truly a dream come true! Except for the *Four Inventions*, all the pieces were inspired by and dedicated to Jerry Alan Bush, Professor Emeritus at USA who taught at USA for over 40 years. Robert Holm is Professor of Music at USA and Director of Keyboard Studies. LeeArron Klosterman earned his BM in piano performance, and his MM in collaborative piano at USA, and is currently Music Director and Organist at St. Pius X Catholic Church in Mobile. Micah Durant lives in Mobile and has studied piano with David Durant, Kuansin Engebretson, Pamela Penick, and Jerry Alan Bush.

David Durant (b. 1957, Birmingham, Alabama) is Professor of Music at USA and Director of the Music Theory and Technology Program. He has written over 100 works and has had performances in South Korea, China, Italy, The Netherlands, Spain, Northern Ireland, Scotland, Mexico, Puerto Rico and across the United States. Later this spring his new piece for trumpet and fixed audio, "Unveiled," will be premiered in Rome, Italy at the Pontifical Institute of Sacred Music.

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