



HENRI LAZAROF

Born in Sofia, Bulgaria on April 12, 1932, Lazarof began his musical training at the age of six. In 1948 he moved with his parents to Israel where he studied privately with Paul Ben-Haim and at the New Conservatory of Music in Jerusalem. In 1955 he traveled to Rome where he attended the Santa Cecilia Musical Academy as an advanced pupil under Goffredo Petrassi. In 1957 Lazarof came to the United States where he studied with Arthur Berger and Harold Shapiro on a full scholarship at Brandeis University. In 1959 he received the degree of Master of Fine Arts. That same year Lazarof moved to the West Coast where he commenced a lifelong association with the University of California, Los Angeles. In 1962 he joined the music department as an instructor and today is a full Professor of Music. A natural protagonist of modern music, Lazarof organized the 1963 Festival of Contemporary Music which featured works and lectures by Berio, Stockhausen and Leonard Stein.

In 1966 Lazarof was awarded the first International Prize of Milan for *Structures Sonores*, which had its world premiere with the Los Angeles Philharmonic conducted by Zubin Mehta. In 1970-71 he was named Artist-in-Residence by the West German government. In 1973 he was named Artistic Director of the 1973 Contemporary Music Festival and was responsible for two active seasons of new music.

"The world is big enough for all kinds of composers," says Lazarof, "but that is not my cup of tea. I believe you should not repeat yourself—I try to always write for new instrumental forces—to search out the limits of the performer and one's own limits as a composer."

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