

The music of **Bill Pfaff** (b. 1960) is characterized by a strong sense of line, clear harmonic motion, and gestures that have been described as "profound and extravagant." Recent commissions include works for Ricochet Duo (marimba and piano), North/South Consonance (chamber orchestra), Consortium Ardesia (clarinet/bass clarinet, horn, cello, piano), Lafayette College Contemporary Music Ensemble (flute, oboe, clarinet, violin, cello) and the MasterSingers Chorus. Other projects include a set of three compositions for solo electric bass and looping devices that were premiered at the International Looping Festival in Santa Cruz, CA by Dr. Drew Waters. The works will be released on CD by Asilowerks Productions in 2014. Bill has also produced music for theater, dance and art installations. He composed incidental music for the SUNY Plattsburgh Mainstage production of *Fuddy Meers* that combined fixed media and *music concrete*. The electronic score *Solitude of Sea* was commissioned by choreographer Julia Gleich (London, UK). He is currently composing music for an installation in collaboration with Virginia-based visual artist, Ron Johnson.

Bill's works have been performed in Cairo, Egypt, New York City, Boston, Phoenix, Atlanta and Miami. In addition, his music has been featured at High Point University, Stony Brook University, Radford University, Winston-Salem State University, Gettysburg College, University of New Hampshire and UNC Charlotte. Closer to home, his music is regularly programmed at the Warebrook Contemporary Music Festival (Northeast Kingdom) and SUNY Plattsburgh.

He has been composer-in-residence at several colleges and universities. During these appointments, he has participated in concerts of his music, conducted master classes, given presentations and demonstrated his innovative, student-centered approaches to teaching music theory. Recent residencies include: University of Massachusetts-Lowell, California State University Monterey Bay and the New Music Visions series at High Point University (High Point, NC). In 2010, Bill was the Alan and Wendy Pesky Artist-in-Residence at Lafayette College. The Lafayette College Concert Band premiered his commissioned work, *Second Mesa*, under the direction of Dr. Kirk O'Riordan.

His music has been recognized by fellowships at the Wellesley Composers Conference, June in Buffalo, May in Miami, Gregg Smith Singers Choral Workshop and the Composer/Conductor Program at the Hartt School of Music. He has been an Artist-in-Residence at the Ucross Foundation, Escape to Create, the Petrified Forest National Park and the Hubbell Trading Post National Historic Site. He holds a Ph.D. in Composition and Theory from Brandeis University and a MA in Music Theory and Literature from the University of New Hampshire. His principal teachers were Martin Boykan, Yehudi Wyner, Allen Anderson, Ed Cohen and Niel Sir. He is Associate Professor of Music at SUNY Plattsburgh.