



Composer - Conductor

Ronald Foster Music (ASCAP)

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Ronald Foster is one of the new breed of composer/conductors capable of working within a wide variety of musical genres. Whether it be on the concert stage, in the theater, or in the areas of jazz and popular music, Mr. Foster has earned a reputation as a creative, innovative, and sensitive musician.

The music of Ronald Foster has been performed and/or recorded by the Milwaukee Symphony, Fort Worth Symphony, Dayton Philharmonic, Amarillo Symphony, Charleston Symphony, Colorado Springs Symphony, National Repertory Orchestra, Garden State Philharmonic, Cape Cod Symphony, Lubbock Symphony, Fox Valley Symphony, Kokomo Symphony, Ohlone Symphony, Plymouth Symphony, Pueblo Symphony, Wellesley Symphony, Winston-Salem Piedmont Triad Symphony, Lamont Symphony, Bloomington Pops, Broadmoor Pops, Aureole, Da Vinci String Quartet, Eclectix, Juilliard Brass Quintet, Present Music, Stephen Burns, Woody Herman, Bobby McFerrin, Heidi Grant Murphy, Doc Severinsen, David Shostac, The Four Freshmen, Dallas Jazz Orchestra, Air Force Academy Band (Air Force Band of the Rockies), Air Force Band of Liberty (Boston), Air Force Band of Flight (Dayton), Band of the Royal Air Force College, and leading chamber, collegiate, and military ensembles. His works include music for orchestra, wind ensemble/band, brass and percussion

ensemble, string quartet, chamber ensembles, solo clarinet, solo guitar, chorus, children's chorus, jazz band, and electronic orchestration. He is the former Chief Composer for the United States Air Force Academy Band.

Ronald Foster has been a frequent guest conductor with the Milwaukee Symphony since 1998, and has also served as guest conductor with the Milwaukee Ballet Orchestra, Milwaukee Chamber Orchestra, Colorado Springs Symphony, South Carolina Philharmonic, Sheboygan Symphony, Waukesha Symphony, Pueblo Symphony, Chamber Orchestra of the Springs, Soundscapes Chamber Ensemble, and the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra. Mr. Foster is also an accomplished woodwind soloist.

Ronald Foster has been Composer/Conductor with the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra's Arts in Community Education (ACE) Program since 1997, and served as Guest Composer with the MSO in January, 2000. He was Adjunct Professor of Composition at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee from 1999-2006. Mr. Foster was Music Director, Conductor, and Co-Founder of the Broadmoor Pops Orchestra (Colorado) from 1992-98, Music Director and Conductor of the Pikes Peak Civic Orchestra from 1989-91 and 1994-95, Music Director and Conductor of the Colo-

rado College Chamber Orchestra from 1990-95, Assistant Conductor of the Pueblo Symphony from 1989-91, and was Music Director, Conductor, and Composer/Arranger for the Broadmoor Ice Revue Orchestra from 1985-95.

Mr. Foster attended the University of North Texas and holds degrees from the University of Denver (MA: Orchestral Conducting/Composition) and the University of Southern Colorado (BS: Music Performance: Woodwinds). He studied conducting with Harold Farberman, Vincent La Guardia, and Daniel Lewis, and composition with John Corigliano and Donald Keats. Mr. Foster won the 1993 America the Beautiful Commissioning Project and has received ASCAP Composer Awards yearly since 1992. Ronald Foster's "...on the Wings of Angels," a joint commission for the Dayton Philharmonic and the Air Force Band of Flight, commemorating the 2003 Centennial of Powered Flight, premiered in May, 2003, with future performances to be given in Dayton and Tacoma. His chamber orchestra version of David Carlson's "The Midnight Angel," commissioned by Milwaukee's renowned Skylight Opera Theatre, will open the Skylight's 2007-2008 season.

"Congratulations on your recent CD. You have wonderful craft and the music is very beautiful."

– John Corigliano

"Finding your work placed between Bernstein and Copland on a program must be a little daunting for a composer. But Foster's "Contemplations for Solo Clarinet" held up quite well in such august company. It proved to be a colorful, creative piece, particularly in Haskell's spirited interpretation..."

– Elaine Schmidt, Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel

"Music of this sort is hard to play. They played "Notturno" with panache, sympathy and a confidence born of conductor Ron Foster's rock-solid command of the score."

– Tom Strini, Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel

The [Milwaukee Symphony] Pops, under the baton of Ronald Foster, presented the program, "Symphonic Night at the Movies." Foster and the orchestra did a remarkable job."

– Elaine Schmidt, Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel

Orchestral Works:

... on the Wings of Angels [2002] (for symphony orchestra and band) 13:00

Commissioned by the United States Air Force Band of Flight

Orchestra: *3 *3 *3 *3 - 4 3 3 1 - timp + 3 - pf - hp - str

Band: *3 *2 *3 (two per part), bass clar./contrabass/clar., 2 bsns., 4 saxophones 4 *6 4 2 - euphonium - contrabass/electric bass - 2 electric guitars (1 doubling acoustic) keyboard (acoustic grand piano/synthesizer/celesta) - timp + 3

Performances: Dayton Philharmonic, Air Force Band of Flight; 5/11/03

Variations on Good King Wenceslas [1998] (orchestral version) 5:30

Orchestral version commissioned by the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra

*3*3*3 2 - 4 3 3 1 - timp + 3 - hp - str

Performances: Milwaukee Symphony; 12/1&2/98; 1/11,12,13,25/2000

Kokomo Symphony (IN); 12/2/01

Fox Valley Symphony (WI); 12/15/01

Variations In America (A Celebration of Diversity) [1996] 8:00

for Orchestra and Solo Trumpet. Composed by Stephen Burns and Ronald Foster

Commissioned by Stephen Burns

*3 *2 2 2 - 4 3 3 1 - timp + 3 - solo tpt (flugelhorn, picc. tpt) - str

Performances: Cape Cod Symphony; Stephen Burns, Trumpet; 7/6/96

America: The Vision (Fantasia on "America the Beautiful") [1993] 12:30

for Orchestra, SATB Chorus, Children's Chorus, and Narrator

Commissioned by the Wellesley Historical Society

*3 *3 2 2 - 4 3 3 1 - timp + 3 - hp - str - SATB chorus - children's chorus - narrator

Performances: Wellesley Symphony Orchestra, Wellesley Choral Society; 1/23/94

Visions (Past, Present, Future) [1991] 8:00

for Jazz Fusion Group and Orchestra

Commissioned by the Colorado Springs Symphony Orchestra

*3 *2 *3 2 - 4 3 3 1 - timp + 3 - soprano saxophone, guitar, jazz piano, electric bass, drumset - hp - str (bass clarinet is optional)

Performances: Colorado Springs Symphony Orchestra; Dotsero, Jazz Fusion Group; 5/17 & 18/91

Summertime Fantasy for Flute and Orchestra (after Gershwin) [1990] 6:30

Commissioned by the Colorado Springs Symphony Orchestra

solo flute - 0 1 2 2 - 4 1 3 1 - timp + 2 - hp - str

Performances: Pueblo Symphony Orchestra; Jeani Muhonen, Flute; 9/20/90

Colorado Springs Symphony Orchestra; Jeani Muhonen, Flute; 9/21-22/90

Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra; 9/28-29/90, 10/20/90

Lamont Symphony Orchestra; Jeani Muhonen, Flute; 5/30/91

National Repertory Orchestra; David Shostac, Flute; 7/10/91

Bloomington Pops Orchestra; Stephen Pratt, Flute; 11/20/93

Charleston Symphony Orchestra (CD recording); Rebecca Gilbert, Flute; 1/31/96

Charleston Symphony Orchestra; Rebecca Gilbert, Flute; 7/4/96

Charleston Symphony Orchestra; Jeani Muhonen Foster, Flute; 10/4/96

Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra; Jeani Muhonen Foster, Flute; 6/22/97, 7/5 & 8/97

Garden State Philharmonic; 5/16/98, 6/6/98
Ohlone Symphony (CA); 6/14/98
Columbus Indiana Philharmonic; 9/26/98
Winston-Salem Piedmont Triad Symphony; 10/10,11,13/98
Plymouth Symphony (MI); 4/7/2000
Ruby Mountain Symphony (NV); 4/15/2000
Recording: Charleston Symphony Orchestra "Portraits in Blue and Gray"

Conversations for Flute and Orchestra [1988] 9:00

solo flute - *3 2 *3 2 - 4 3 3 1 - timp + 4 - hp - pf/cel - str
Performances: Lamont Symphony Orchestra; Jeani Muhonen, Flute; 3/8/88

Dithyramb (Overture) [1986] 3:30

Commissioned by the Colorado Springs Symphony
*3 2 *3 2 - 4 4 3 1 - timp + 3 - str (bass clarinet part is optional)
Performances: Colorado Springs Symphony; 7/86; Lamont Symphony Orchestra;
11/17/87; Pikes Peak Civic Orchestra; 5/6/90; Broadmoor Pops Orchestra;
12/31/95, 12/31/97

Reflections (for studio orchestra) [1985] 4:00

2 *2 *3 2 - 5 saxophones (alto, alto, tenor, tenor, baritone) - 3 4 (doubling flugelhorn) 4 1
- jazz piano, jazz bass (acoustic/electric), drumset - 2 perc. - hp - str
Performances: Lamont Symphony Orchestra; 5/31/85

Wind Ensemble/Band Works:

... on the Wings of Angels [2002] (for symphony orchestra and band) 13:00

Commissioned by the United States Air Force Band of Flight
Band: *3 *2 *3 (two per part), bass clar./contrabass/clar., 2 bsns., 4
saxophones 4 *6 4 2 - euphonium - contrabass/electric bass - 2 electric guitars
(1 doubling acoustic) keyboard (acoustic grand piano/synthesizer/celesta) -
timp + 3 Orchestra: *3 *3 *3 *3 - 4 3 3 1 - timp + 3 - pf - hp - str
Performances: Dayton Philharmonic, Air Force Band of Flight; 5/11/03

Aurora Borealis [1997] 4:00

Commissioned by the Air Force Band of Liberty, Hanscom AFB, MA
*3 2 4 (two per part + Eb cl.), bass clarinet, 2 bassoons - 3 saxophones (alto, tenor, baritone) - 3 6 4 3
- euphonium - double bass - timp + 3
Performances: Air Force Band of Liberty; 5/11/97, 3/5,6,8/98,
4/17,22,24,26/99,5/4,7,8,22/99; Air Force Band of Flight, 5/3/03

Wings (Reflections on the United States Air Force Academy) [1992] 10:00

Commissioned by the United States Air Force Academy Band
*3 2 3 (two per part + Eb cl.), bass clarinet, 2 bassoons - 4 saxophones
(alto, alto, tenor, baritone) - 4 4 3 2 - euphonium - timp. + 3 - pf - double bass

Variations on Good King Wenceslas [1991] 5:30

Commissioned by the United States Air Force Academy Band

*3 1 3 (two per part), bass clarinet, 2 bassoons - 4 saxophones (2 alto, tenor, baritone) -
4 4 4 2 - euphonium - timp. + 3 - pf - double bass

Performances: Air Force Academy Band; several performances 12/91

Air Force Band of Liberty (Boston); 11/29/99, 12/1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 8, 9/99

Freedom from Want (inspired by the Norman Rockwell painting) [1989] 4:00

Commissioned by the United States Air Force Academy Band

*3 2 3 (two per part), bass clarinet, 2 bassoons - 3 saxophones (alto, alto, tenor) -
4 4 4 1 - euphonium (in lieu of 4th horn) - timp + 3 - pf - double bass

Performances: Air Force Academy Band; 5/89

A Christmas Overture [1988] 5:00

*3 *2 3 (two per part), bass clarinet, 2 bassoons - 3 saxophones (alto, alto, tenor) -
4 4 4 1 - euph. (in lieu of 4th horn) - timp + 4 - pf - double bass

Performances: Air Force Academy Band; several performances 12/88

Air Force Band of Liberty (Boston); 11/30/98, 12/1,2,3,4,5,6,10/98

Other Works:

Soliloquy (for 12-String Guitar) [2001] 8:00

Commissioned by John Tamburello

Constellations (for percussion [drumset], guitar, keyboard, and electric bass) [2000] 9:00

Commissioned by Terry Smirl

Work-in-Progress performance: 5/4/01

Contemplations for Solo Clarinet [1999] 8:00

Commissioned by Christopher Zello

Performances: 11/22/99, 2/18/00, 3/17/00, 4/9/2000, 11/2/01, 11/8/01

Diana Haskell; 4/29/01

Recording: "Contemplations" by Christopher Zello, clarinet [CZ #101]

Cadenza for Harp (for Concerto in Bb Major by G. F. Handel) [1998] 3:30

Commissioned by Danis Kelly, Principal Harp, Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra

Performances: Amarillo Symphony; Danis Kelly, harp; 3/5/98

Waves (for Present Music) [1997] 5:00

Commissioned by the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra Arts in Community Education (ACE)

Program; Andreas Delfs, Music Director

clarinet/bass clarinet, trumpet, violin, cello, percussion

Performances: Present Music; 2/4,9,11/98, 3/9/98, 2/5/99, 3/19,25,26/99, 3/8,17,28/00, 4/4,10/00,
2/12,26/01, 3/5,12,22,23/01

Three Hymns for Choir, Organ, and Brass (adaptations of traditional hymns) [1997] 9:30

Commissioned to commemorate the 150th anniversary of Grace Church Brooklyn

Heights (choir, organ, and brass quintet)

Performances: Grace Church, Paul Olson, Organist/Choirmaster, Juilliard Brass Quintet; 5/4/97

All The Pretty Little Horses (adapted from the traditional lullaby) [1996] 5:30

Commissioned by Aureole (flute, viola, and harp), Heidi Grant Murphy, soprano

Recording: Aureole w/ Heidi Grant Murphy, soprano [Koch International Classics #7433]

Meditations for Flute and Harp [1996] 10:00

Performances: Jeani Muhonen Foster and Alyssa Hess, CAMI Hall, NYC; 5/22/96

Jeani Muhonen Foster and Alyssa Hess, Merkin Concert Hall, NYC; 5/12/97

Prayer for Flute and Harp [1993] 1:30

Performances: Leslie Lamb and Joni Martin, 2/14/93 Jeani Muhonen Foster and Ann Seybold;

10/23/93 Jeani Muhonen Foster and Wilanna Kalkhof (piano version) WHAD (90.7)

Wisconsin Public Radio (Hotel Milwaukee radio show); 5/23/98

subsequent broadcasts: 5/29/98 (2), 5/30/98

Fanfare 1989 (for Brass and Percussion) [1989] 2:30

Commissioned by the United States Air Force Academy Band

4 4 4 1 - timp + 3 - pf/cel - double bass - euphonium (in lieu of 4th horn)

Performances: Air Force Academy Band; 5/15/89, 3/10/90

Pikes Peak Civic Orchestra; 10/30/94; University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee, Brass

Ensemble, 4/29/02

Passacaglia for Brass and Percussion [1988] 3:00

Commissioned by the United States Air Force Academy Band

4 4 4 1 - timp + 4 - euphonium (in lieu of 4th horn)

Performances: Lamont Symphony Orchestra; 4/18/89

The Lord Has Triumphed (based upon Psalm 118) for Chorus, Brass, and Organ [1987] 4:00

Composed for the Taylor Memorial Choir

SATB chorus - brass quintet (1 2 1 1) - organ

Performances: Taylor Memorial Choir; 5/87

Marche Surreal (for Brass Quintet) [1986] 2:00

Commissioned by the United States Air Force Academy Brass Quintet

brass quintet (1 2 1 1)

Performances: Air Force Academy Brass Quintet; numerous performances, 1986-93

Jazz Works:

**Instrumentation (unless otherwise noted): 5 saxophones (alto, alto, tenor, tenor, baritone/frequently doubling)
- 4 tpts - 4 tbns - 4 rhythm*

Headin' for the 1990's (for Jazz Band and Computer Sequencer) [1990]

Commissioned by the Broadmoor Ice Revue

4 saxophones (alto, alto, tenor, baritone) - 4 tpts - 4 tbns - 4 rhythm

In Memoriam: Gary McFarland (for Solo Trombone and Jazz Band) [1988]

Passages (for solo trumpet and jazz band) [1987]

America Rocks (for Jazz Band) [1986] Commissioned by the Broadmoor Ice Revue

4 saxophones (alto, alto, tenor, baritone) - 4 tpts - 4 tbns - 4 rhythm

Catharsis (for Jazz Band), [1983]

Metamorphosis (for Solo Jazz Quintet, Jazz Band and Audio Tape) [1980]

Suzanne (for Solo Alto Saxophone and Jazz Orchestra) [1980]

Instrumentation: additional woodwinds required

A New Beginning (for Solo Trumpet and Jazz Band) [1980]

Prophecy (for Solo Trombone and Jazz Band) [1979]

Inner Journey (for Solo Tenor Saxophone and Jazz Band) [1979]

Commissioned by the University of Northern Colorado

Optional scoring for 5 reeds - 5 tpts - 5 tbns - 4 rhythm

Portrait (for Solo Alto Saxophone and Jazz Band) [1978]

Nemesis (for Jazz Band) [1976]

*All jazz compositions commissioned by the United States Air Force Academy Falconaires jazz band unless otherwise noted. Additional information on jazz works (including performances and recordings) furnished upon request.