

*Trio No. 2* (1990)

Thomas Christian David

“To write for the Verdehr Trio is a great and unspoiled pleasure because this ensemble possesses the emotional and technical possibilities to fulfill all wishes of the composer. The frequent opportunity to write for this ensemble has inspired me to offer something new each time regarding form and content. The second trio opposes two evenly proportioned outer movements against a very simple middle section, which is, however, necessary to balance the fast-moving outer movements—especially that of the *Finale*. In general, the first movement (and the *Finale*) shows what can be developed out of the elements of a sonata movement. The coda of the *Finale* is distinguished by its perpetual motion-like character.”

—Thomas Christian David

The world premiere of *Trio, No. 2* was on May 6, 1991 at Aula de Cultura, Caja Postal, Madrid, Spain.

Thomas Christian David (1925–2006) was born in Wels, Austria, the son of composer Johann Nepomuk David. One of Austria’s most prolific, distinguished, and frequently-played composers, he was also well known as a conductor. For many years, he was Professor of Composition at the *Hochschule für Music* in Vienna. He divided his time between his duties in Vienna and concert tours on which he played and conducted many of his own compositions. He received composition prizes from the City of Stuttgart, Paris Radio, the City of Vienna, and the Province of Upper Austria.

David had a long association with the Verdehr Trio, which began when he was a guest professor at Michigan State University in 1977 and continued until his death in 2006. This close relationship resulted in three *Trios* (Crystal Records CD 944); a *Duo for Violin and Clarinet* (Leonarda Records LP 1122); a *Triple Concerto for Trio and Orchestra* (recorded with the the *Tonkünstler* Orchestra, Crystal Records CD 745); *Schubertiade* (in the style of Schubert, Crystal Records CD 742); *Carmen Fantasy* (written for the Midland, Michigan Symphony Orchestra and later arranged for Trio and Wind Symphony); and *Sinfonia Concertante* (commissioned by the Michigan State University Wind Symphony in the summer of 1987). Both works with wind symphony are recorded on Crystal Records CD 749.