

*Trio No. 3, Aziz Djune (1995)*

Thomas Christian David

"*Aziz Djune* was commissioned by Michigan State University and composed for the Verdehr Trio in 1995. *Aziz Djune* is a Persian concept and means something like sweetheart. It is also the first word of a folksong with banal (what else can one expect from a love song?) content which is very popular in Iran. This love melody is rooted in every single part of the music and is woven into the overall structure of each movement. The compositional technique could be compared to the weaving of an oriental carpet—something is made from the same yarn and follows one format. The music should be executed with the most vivid tonal colors. It transforms the musicians into an oriental mentality but never leaves the European structure out of sight."

—Thomas Christian David

The world premiere of *Trio, No. 3, Aziz Djune* was on October 8, 1995 at Chamber Music Yellow Springs, Yellow Springs, Ohio.

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.