

*Triple Concerto* (1983)

Thomas Christian David

“The *Triple Concerto* for violin, clarinet, and piano was commissioned and influenced by the Verdehr Trio. The music is derived from the concept that all three partners are given highly personal tasks which they must master and shape individually within the ensemble. The concepts of the composer were, in very large part, influenced by the tonal and technical possibilities of the Verdehr Trio.”

—Thomas Christian David

The world premiere of the *Triple Concerto* was on April 25, 1985 at Shea Hall, William Paterson College, Wayne, New Jersey with the William Paterson College Chamber Orchestra conducted by the composer.

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.