

## *Burlesca* (2003)

Dante De Silva

The world premiere of *Burlesca* was on March 6, 2004 in a Verdehr Trio Residency at Schoenberg Hall, University of California, Los Angeles, Los Angeles, California.

Dante De Silva is a Los Angeles-based composer and musician. He received the Bachelor of Arts in piano performance from Humboldt State University where he studied with Deborah Clasquin (piano), Brian Post (composition), and Eugene Novotney (percussion and composition). He completed the Master of Arts degree in composition at the University of California, Santa Cruz, studying with David Cope and Paul Nauert. He earned a Ph.D. in composition at the University of California, Los Angeles with David Lefkowitz and Paul Reale as his primary instructors.

From his early days in a rock band, De Silva has aimed to create music that evokes emotions ranging from the simple to the complex. To conjure those emotions, his compositions incorporate a characteristic balance of lyricism, simplicity, humor, fragility, and even savagery. His music has been described as “haunting” (*Classical Sonoma*), “beautiful” (*Los Angeles Times*), “sparkling” (*San Francisco Classical Voice*), and “fun” (*Sequenza21*).

De Silva enjoys writing for traditional instruments and ensembles, such as string quartet and orchestra, as well as for experimental ones, such as a microwave and table-top guitar. His many works include music for solo instruments and for chamber, choral, orchestral, and theatre ensembles. He has also composed electronic music and worked in film.

De Silva’s awards include those from the National Association of Composers USA, Meet the Composer Foundation, Santa Cruz New Music Works, New Music USA, and UCLA. He has received commissions from Opera Parallèle, the B Band, Grammy-winning pianist Gloria Cheng, and the University of California, at both Los Angeles and Santa Cruz. The Definiens Project premiered fifteen works he wrote as composer-in-residence. His music has been performed throughout the United States as well as in parts of Canada and Europe. Notable performances include those by the Talea Ensemble, Pacific Serenades, Composers Inc., Westside Collective, What’s Next?, Bakersfield Symphony, and numerous university ensembles.

Additional information is available at [www.dantedesilva.com](http://www.dantedesilva.com).