

James Furman - Professional Assessment

## Music Recently Published or Accepted for Publication

James Furman (Music and Music Fducation), 17 years a faculty member at Western, is publishing, writing and being written about in record proportions since the 80s began. Furman had six choral works and one instrumental work released during 1980-81 and 10 instrumental compositions accepted for publication by Dorn Publications. He and his work are discussed in four books published in 1981 and two soon to be published; two articles have discussed the composer and his works. He was also honored with a plaque awarded by the Stamford Board of Education for "educational contributions and dedication," last year. Furman's choral works released are: "The Quiet Life," "Come Thou Long Expected Jesus," "Glory to God in the Highest;" and, accepted for publication, "I Keep Journeyin' On." "Suite for Solo Clarinet," an instrumental work, was released in June 1981. Instrumental compositions by Furman, accepted for publication by Dorn Publications, include: "I Have A Dream" (symphonic oratorio); "The Declaration of Independence" (for narrator and orchestra); "Battle Scenes" (suite for winds, percussion and amplified harpsichord); "Fantasia and Chorale for Strings" (from "I Have A Dream"); "Cantilena for Strings" (from "The Declaration of Independence"); and "Hichigin for Alto Saxophone and Piano."

Also, Triumphal Fanfare for Brass and Percussion (from "The Declaration of Independence"); Recitative and Aria for Horn and Woodwinds also published as Recitative and Aria for Horn and Piano; Incantation for Clarinet and Strings also published as Incantation for Clarinet and Piano; and Chanson for Cornet (Trumpet) and Strings also published as Chanson for Cornet (Trumpet) and Piano.

## 11. Included in the following publications, released 1981-82:

- 1. Tischler, Alice. <u>Fifteen Black American Composers: A Bibliography</u> of Their Works. <u>Detroit</u>, Information coordinators, Inc. June, 1981
- White, Evelyn Davidson. Choral Music by Afro-American Composers: a selected, annotated bibliography. Metuchen, N. J., Scarecrow Press, Inc., 1981
- 3, Kay, Ernest. Dictionary of International Biography, Cambridge, 1981
- 4. The Directory of Distinguished Americans, Raleigh, N. C. 1981
- 5. DeLerma, Dominique-Rene. <u>Bibliography of Black Music</u>., Westport, Ct., Greenwood Press.

- 6. Southern, Eileen. <u>Biographical Dictionary of Afro-American and African</u> <u>Musicians</u>, Westport, Ct, , Greenwood Press, September, 1982
- III. Performances of Original Compositions

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Known performances include the following:

- Music by James Furman (included premieres of four recent works) April 20, 1982 at Ives Hall, Danbury, Connecticut.
- "Highijin" for Alto Saxophone and Piano. Played by Philip and Mary DeLibero for the North American Alliance of Saxophonists at Ithaca, N. Y. College, September 18, 1982.
- 3. "Hehlehlooyuh" (a) Sung by the Connecticut All-State Chorus, Evelyn White, Conductor at All-State Chorus, University of Connecticut Jorgenson Hall, May 21, 1982. Performance recorded by Vogt Quality Recordings, P.O. Box 302, Needham, Mass. 02192. (b) Performed by • the Evelyn White Chorale at the National Gallery, Washington, D.C., October 31, 1982.
- 4. Music is being performed nationally at clinics and by individuals and ensembles.
- IV. Grants (during 1981-82)

Grants were received from the following sources:

- For a recording of original choral music--Individual Artist grant of \$3,000 from the Connecticut Commission on the Arts, October, 1982.
- For financial support of "Music of James Furman" concert, April 20, 1982, Ives Hall, Danbury, Conn.
  - a. Program Activities Council of W.C.S.C.
  - b. Danbury Cultural Commission
  - c. Paul Dunbar Foundation
  - d. National Education Association of Danbury
  - e. W.C.S.C. Alumni Association
  - f. Phi Mu Alpha of W.C.S.C.
  - g. Seven churches and organizations
- V. Book in Progress

Black Gospel Music: A History and Performance Practice

VI. Service on College Committees

1979-82. Served on the D.E.C. and Affirmative Action Committees at W.C.S.C.



## VII. Hosted the following as Choral Conductor at W.C.S.C.

- a. Intercollegiate Choral Festival, November25, 1981. Participants included choruses from Westconn, Southern and Wesleyan University.
- b. The Ensemble Vocal Universitaire De Strasbourg (from Choruses of the World), Ives Hall, September 25, 1982