

# Montgomery Philharmonic

Intersecting with the Community

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## Montgomery Philharmonic 2016 - 17 Our 11th Season – Inspired by...

### Concert 3, February 2, 2017– Inspired by Youth

Williams | Meyer | Balmages | Newbold | Stalter | Swearingen | Márquez | Gershwin | Diemer

#### *Danzón No. 2* – Arturo Márquez (MP alone with select WMHS musicians)

**Instrumentation** – 2 flutes (2nd doubling piccolo), 2 oboes, 2 clarinets, 2 bassoons, 4 horns, 2 trumpets, 3 trombones, tuba, timpani, percussion (3 players), – 1. Claves, snare drum, suspended cymbal; 2. Güiro, 3 toms; 3. Bass drum, piano, strings

- **Arturo Márquez – Danzón No. 2 (1994)**

This piece sets Márquez in a group of the four most important composers in Mexico—José Pablo Moncayo, Carlos Chávez, Silvestre Revueltas, and, of course, Arturo Márquez. The work was commissioned for the National Autonomous University of Mexico’s Orchestra and was debuted in 1994. It features the piano, violin, trumpet, and clarinet in solo sections. The rhythmic quality of the piece is at the center of the composition, with accents that shift throughout the piece, making it feel as if the tempo is shifting when, in actuality, the accents are doing this work.

The *danzón* has its roots in a Cuban dance form that also is a very important part of Mexican folklore in the state of Veracruz. The golden age of *danzón* took place in the 1940’s and was very popular in the ballrooms and dance halls of Mexico. In 2009, there was a movie made using this piece as the background for the subject of *danzón*. In the movie, Márquez makes a cameo appearance as the pianist in the dance hall orchestra.

His *danzón* compositions are now being used not only in film, but also on the stage with ballets.

#### About Arturo Márquez

Arturo Márquez is a Mexican composer of orchestra music who uses musical forms and styles of his native Mexico and incorporates them into his compositions. Márquez is the only one of the nine children in his family who became a musician, even though his father played in a mariachi band and his paternal grandfather was a Mexican folk singer. His family immigrated to La Puente, California, during his middle school years and it was then that he began playing the trombone. As a high school student, he added the violin to his list of instruments. Márquez had started playing the piano in Sonora, Mexico, so he continued his study when he moved to La Puente. At age 16, he began to compose. When it was time to go to college, Márquez decided to return to Mexico, where he studied composition at the Mexican Music Conservatory. After completing his studies there, he was awarded a scholarship to study composition in Paris with Jacques Casterede. Márquez was awarded a Fulbright Scholarship to study in the United States, and completed a Master of Music degree in composition at the California Institute of the Arts. There he studied with Morton Subotnik, Mel Powell, Luck Mosko, and James Newton.

Márquez fuses Mexican nationalistic styles with classical composition techniques to create music that is exciting and dynamic to the public. He composes symphony orchestra music and also writes music for solo instruments, chamber music, and music for film.

**Born:** December 20, 1950, Álamos, Mexico

**Education:** California Institute of the Arts

**Songs:** Dánzon No. 2, Conga del Fuego

**Parents:** Arturo Márquez, Aurora Márquez Navarro

**Nominations:** Ariel Award for Best Original Score

**Film music credits:** A Portrait of Diego: The Revolutionary Gaze, Two Crimes

#### YouTube Videos –

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Pgcrlj2DAkM>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gpsHUUHZb9w>



1. Danzon No. 2 - Gustavo Dudamel & Simón Bolívar Youth Orchestra of Venezuela

2. Danzon No. 2 (Live) - Los Angeles Philharmonic & Gustavo Dudamel

3. Danzón No. 2 (feat. Orquesta Mexicana de las Artes) - Márquez