

## Montgomery Philharmonic 2018 - 2019 Our 13th Season : They Changed The World

Concert 1, Sunday, October 7, 2018: They are Immigrants

Stravinsky | Milhaud | Vali | **Amaya**

### About Vali –

Reza Vali was born in Ghazvin, Persia (Iran) in 1952 and first began his music studies at the Conservatory of Music in Tehran. In 1972, he studied music education and composition at the Academy of Music in Vienna. Following graduation, he moved to the United States and earned his PhD in music theory and composition from the University of Pittsburgh. He has received numerous honors and commissions, including the honor prize of the Austrian Ministry of Arts and Sciences; two Andrew W. Mellon Fellowships; and commissions from the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, the Boston Modern Orchestra Project, the Pittsburgh New Music Ensemble, Kronos Quartet, the Seattle Chamber Players, and the Arizona Friends of Chamber Music. Vali has been a faculty member of the School of Music at Carnegie Mellon University since 1988 and recently founded the Center for Iranian Music there.

Vali has a unique and very personal ethos in that his artistic output attempts to understand the dialogue between ancients and moderns. It addresses his conviction that what has been historically and artistically camouflaged can be revealed. Since 2000, Vali has been composing exclusively within the demanding palette of Persian polyphone. Recent works include a work for microtonal trumpet and orchestra; songs using Persian folksongs as their inspiration; a work originally written for Persian wind instruments and ensemble; and a work for Persian New, Kamanche, and Orchestra.

- **Born:** 1952, born in Ghazvin, Persia (Iran)
- **Compositions:** 8 works for Orchestra, 5 works for chamber orchestra, 24 chamber works, 3 works for choir, 16 works for solo instrument or voice (some with piano or guitar accompaniment)

### *The Darkness of Fury* (2012) – Reza Vali (b. 1952)

*The Darkness of Fury* is a contemplation of the brutality of war, especially the wars of the Middle East (12 wars since 1948). Following a brief and violent introduction, a terse chromatic fugue ensues, which Vali calls the “Fugue from Hell,” with demons chasing demons. A romantic transition, played by the strings, gives a ray of hope for peace. But this is short lived, as the “Fugue from Hell” returns, bringing the piece to its brutal and violent end. *The Darkness of Fury* is a re-composition of an earlier work.

**Instrumentation:** piccolo, 2 flutes, 2 oboes, English horn, 2 clarinets, 2 bassoons, 4 horns (optional 5th horn), 3 trumpets, 3 trombones, tuba, timpani, 2 percussion, violin 1, violin 2, viola, cello, double bass

### Artifacts –

[Arghonoon Project](#)

[An interview about Reza Vali](#)

<https://www.cmu.edu/homepage/creativity/2013/spring/ensemble-idea.shtml>

[Center for Iranian Music at Carnegie Mellon University](#)

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[Reza Vali - Chant And Dance](#)

[Reza Vali: Toward That Endless Plain](#)

### YouTube.com Links –

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EGjtcTI-Xuo>

<https://vimeo.com/272440499>

[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCpC\\_jSe9SYIwTtIcT\\_D07-Q](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCpC_jSe9SYIwTtIcT_D07-Q)