Composers Fredrick Kaufman: Life on the Cutting Edge

By Elman + Marchante + Floyd

Fredrick Kaufman (b.1936) is the composer of over one hundred and thirty compositions that have been performed worldwide by orchestras such as the Warsaw Philharmonic and the Moscow Symphony Orchestra, and have been selected for performances at festivals such as the Aspen Music Festival, the Telluride Chamber Music Festival, and the Cyprien International Festival of the Arts in France.

Kaufman is the founder and former Artistic Director of the St. Cyprien Performing Arts and a faculty member at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He was formerly Academic Dean of the Philadelphia College of the Performing Arts and a faculty member at the University of Indiana. Professor Kaufman was the founder of the FIU School of Music and established its internationally acclaimed FIU Music Festival. He has conducted the premiere performance which was nationally broadcast on NBC-TV. Over the past 10 years, Kaufman has been called upon repeatedly to conduct his compositions at rededication ceremonies of the Statue of Liberty. The composition can Roots of Jazz, a groundbreaking study that drew heavily on archival research, was published by Ashgate in 2004. The book was inspired by baseball and is a historical study of the origins of jazz.

Kaufman is a former Fulbright Scholar, and author of The African American Roots of Jazz, a groundbreaking study that drew heavily on archival research.

Fredrick Kaufman currently resides in Miami Beach where he continues to stretch the boundaries of standard approaches to composition. His interest in the avant-garde continues to be evident in his music, which includes jazz and Eastern European Jewish folk traditions as well as the classics.

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INSIGHT & INSPIRATION:  5:05 min.

How did you come to compose "Thundergate Suite?"

OVERCOMES CHALLENGES TO SUCCEED:  4:19 min.

CREATES A UNIQUE PERSONAL BRAND:  2:02 min.

How did you describe Kaminarimon to the Japanese delegation?

Where did the name Kaminarimon come from?

CREATIVE FLEXIBILITY:  2:32 min.

Talk about the expansion of Kaminarimon.

OVERCOMES CHALLENGES TO SUCCEED:  8:33 min.

How did you get the job as Director of Music for City of Haifa in Israel?

SEIZES OPPORTUNITIES:  2:30 min.

How did the Yom Kippur War impact you?

COMMUNITY VALUES:  2:16 min.

Kaminarimon Part II by Fredrick Kaufman

What is your assessment of the current status of Miami's music community?