

know. Consequently, the graciousness of the Tara Winds' members predetermined the lush feel of this composition... but I still had to pinpoint a style in which to write. When I found out that David's ancestry led back to County Perthshire in Scotland, the style was set. – Samuel Hazo

UPTICK

After a lyrical opening that showcases Stamp's mastery of counterpoint and polytonality, "Uptick" lives up to its name, driving forward with incessant eighth notes and an ever-ascending ostinato, freely passed around the ensemble. Commissioned by the membership of Phi Beta Mu and dedicated to the memory of Gary Tirey, band director, music educator, and friend to all.

PASTIME

Shortly after receiving the commission for "Pastime" from the Santa Clara County (California) Band Directors Association, I had the opportunity to visit Candlestick Park for a San Francisco Giants baseball game. I was shocked to hear that after the 1999 baseball season, Candlestick would be razed for a new stadium. My thoughts took me to the 1962 World Series between the Giants and the Yankees. I realized that it was the first World Series I could remember (I was eight years old). I decided there in Candlestick Park that I would write a work that highlighted the 1962 Giants and baseball in general. This was early in the summer of 1998. Little did I know what a terrific baseball season it would be. Therefore, I have incorporated salutes to the 1962 Giants with accolades to the 1998 baseball season, all loosely woven around two motives from the anthem of the seventh inning stretch, "Take Me Out to the Ball Game." This work is dedicated to Frank Battisti, longtime conductor of the New England Conservatory Wind Ensemble and an avid baseball fan. – Jack Stamp

RIFACIMENTO (World Premiere)

When I was commissioned by Sal LaRusso and the Westport Community Band to write a work for them, Sal specifically requested a work which reflected a "pre-pandemic, pandemic, and post-pandemic" world. So, I set about to write a work that reflected these events and titled it "Rifacimento." A *rifacimento* is a literary work or musical composition that reflects a change in the circumstances of the time. The first movement, "Business As Usual," is a happy tune but ends with somewhat of a question mark. "The Approaching Storm" begins with a waltz version of the theme from the first movement, but there is something lurking in the air. Eventually, the little waltz is struggling to stay alive in a sea of cacophony. This leads directly into the third movement, "Aftermath," which reflects the heartache and suffering that so many went through during the pandemic. The few moments of repose represent those brave and passionate frontline workers who saved many a life. Finally, in "The New Norm," the theme from the first movement attempts to return, but it has been severely affected by the pandemic as it tries to gain the momentum of its pre-Covid days; it reflects on the other two movement's material as people still suffer from the effects of Covid. The theme finally reemerges, somewhat healthy, only to have the movement end with, "What's next?" – Jack Stamp

RIDE

"Ride" was written as a gesture of appreciation for all of the kind things Jack Stamp has done for me, ranging from his unwavering friendship to his heartfelt advice on composition and subjects beyond. In late April of 2002, Jack invited me to take part in a composers' forum he had organized for his students at Indiana University of Pennsylvania. The first day, Jack invited all of the composers to his house for dinner. Since I didn't know the way, Jack told me to follow him. The combination of such an invigorating day, as well as my trying to follow Jack at the top speed down country roads, wrote this piece in my head in the 15 minutes it took to get from campus to the Stamp residence. "Ride" was written and titled for that exact moment in my life when Jack Stamp's generosity—and lead foot—were as equal in their inspiration as the beautiful Pennsylvania countryside blurring past my car window. – Samuel Hazo

Cover sketch by Nicholas O'Brien (GHS). Program design by Jessica Browner (WCB).