



Valerie Coleman, Composer
www.imaniwinds.com
imaniwinds@aol.com
(212) 795-3710
1380 Riverside Dr. #1B
New York, NY 10033

V Coleman

BIOGRAPHY

Composer Valerie Coleman "VCOLEMAN" is a distinct new voice in American music. Her style reflects the soul of urban culture, her African-American heritage, and a strong dedication of creating music for all audiences.

Born (1970) in Louisville, Kentucky, Valerie Coleman began her music studies at the late age of eleven. By the age of fourteen, she had already written three full-length symphonies and had won several local and state flute competitions. Today, Coleman is the resident composer and founder of Imani Winds, making significant contributions to the world of chamber music. Her works are heard regularly throughout the country through the touring of her ensemble and via radio, as result of NPR's Performance Today, and MPR's Saint Paul's Sunday. Imani Winds' debut album UMOJA, features Coleman's compositions, including the title track **UMOJA** and her arrangement of spirituals.

The 2003-2004 season was an official emergence for Valerie, as she won Meet The Composer's 2003 Edward and Sally Van Lier Memorial Fund Award, which enabled her to have a Carnegie Hall debut recital. Later in the season, the **Afro-Cuban Concerto for Wind Quintet and Orchestra** was premiered with The New Haven Symphony, under the baton of Jung-Ho Pak; and Valerie was invited to write a work for the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center's "Double Exposure" concert series. In the Double Exposure concert, her electro-acoustic narrative, "**speech. and canzone**" was premiered alongside the music of Fred Ho and Tania Leon.

In July 2004, her **Concerto** was again performed, this time by The World Youth Symphony, under the baton of Lawrence Leighton Smith at Interlochen Music Festival.

Valerie Coleman resides in New York with her husband Jonathan Page, and she is on the faculty of The Juilliard School Music Advancement Program. Her works are published at International Opus. Education: Music Composition/Theory and Flute Performance, B.M. Boston University; M.M. Mannes College of Music.

PRESS

"...Her understanding of the instruments and her ear for timbral color and texture are formidable."

THE ATLANTA JOURNAL-CONSTITUTION

*"Coleman's **CONCERTO** is a welcome addition to wind quintet literature, full of fresh sound."*

NEW YORK CONCERT REVIEW

"...the three movement work, which required virtuosic involvement by each of the five instrumentalists, displayed a high level of compositional skill on Coleman's part."

SAVANNAH MORNING NEWS

*"For an encore, the musicians stood on the edge of the stage to play (from memory) Coleman's infectious arrangement of the spiritual, **"Ev'ry Time I Feel the Spirit."** It was the perfect feel-good ending to a program that took a welcome new approach to the traditional concert format."*

THE CLEVELAND PLAIN DEALER

*"Coleman's **Steal Away** blended the instruments orchestrally for a deep meditation on the traditional spiritual"*

WASHINGTON POST

*"The world premiere of Coleman's **speech. and canzone** was especially compelling, juxtaposing brooding melodies against digitally manipulated speeches by Robert F. Kennedy and working class champions, including A. Philip Randolph and Cesar Chavez."*

THE CRISIS MAGAZINE (NAACP)

AWARDS, COMMISSIONS, DISCOGRAPHY, AND RESIDENCIES

AWARDS

MEET THE COMPOSER

2003 Edward and Sally Van Lier Fellowship Award

COMMISSIONS

Hartford Symphony Orchestra (2004)

***The Painted Lady**- A new work for full orchestra and soprano.*

To be premiered January 16, 18 2005

DISCOGRAPHY

UMOJA (2002)

*Imani Winds Award Winning Debut CD, titled after Coleman's composition UMOJA. Also features **Lift Every Voice, Ev'ry Time I Feel The Spirit, and Little David Play On Your Harp***

To Be Released (January 2005)

Imani Winds new album under the KOCH Label.

*featuring Coleman's work, **Concerto for Wind Quintet**, and her spiritual, **Steal Away**.*

RESIDENCY

Young Audiences New York (2004)

P.S. 46, Harlem (4 months), New York

FACULTY & TEACHING ARTIST POSITIONS

The Juilliard School Music Advancement Program (1999-2004)

Allegheny Music Festival (2004)

Chamber Music Society Lincoln Center (2002-2003)

Interscholar Orchestras of New York (1999-2003)

Midori Foundation (2001)

Music at Maplemount (2001)

WORKS

SOLO

Lullaby for One So Small (1989) 4'

Solo Flute

Tanglewood Music Festival, Lenox 1989

World Dances (1996) 6'

Solo Clarinet

African Meeting House, Boston 1996

CHAMBER

From Far, From Eve and Morning (1993) 3'

Stars, I Have Seen Them Fall (1993) 2'

text by A.E. Houseman

2 songs for Voice and Piano

Tsai Performance Center, Boston 1994

L'Esprit Ouvert (1994) 10'

Trumpet and Piano

New England Conservatory, Boston 1995

SONATA (1994) 12'

Viola and Piano

Tsai Performance Center, Boston 1995

SEEDS OF THE EARTH SONG SET (1996)

No Images 5'

Invocation 4'

text by Waring Cuney, Helene Johnson

Soprano, Cello, and Piano

African Meeting House, Boston 1996

WORKS

UMOJA (1997) 3'

Wind Quintet

Mannes College of Music 1998

CONCERTO FOR WIND QUINTET (2001) 15'

Flute, Oboe, Clarinet, Bassoon, French Horn

Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall, New York 2001

Capriccio #1 (2002) 3'

Flute and Cello (or Clarinet) Duet

Suffolk County Music Festival, Long Island 2003

speech. and canzone (2004) 13'

speeches by R.F.Kennedy and Cesar Chavez

Tui Ashanti samples from Fidel Mensa

narrative for Wind Quintet and CD (electro-acoustic)

Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center,

New York 2004

Capriccios #2 &3 (2004) 7'

Flute, Clarinet, and Cello

Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall, New York 2004

Sonatine (2004) 12'

Clarinet and Piano

Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall, New York 2004

JUBA (2004) 14'

Percussion Trio-Congas, Timbales, Wood Blocks/cowbell

Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall, New York 2004

ORCHESTRAL

AFRO-CUBAN CONCERTO FOR WIND QUINTET (2003) 16'

Wind Quintet, String Orchestra and Percussion

New Haven Symphony, Jung-Ho Pak, Conductor

New Haven, 2004

WORKS

CHILDREN'S MUSIC

Songbook for Kwanzaa (1997) 22'

Children's Choir, SATB

Tishman Auditorium, New York 1998

Myobi and The Rainbow Bird (1998) 11'

Wind Quintet and narrator

Young Audiences New York, New York 1998

ASHEYO (2000)

A Call and Response for Wind Quintet

Fischhoff Chamber Music Association,

South Bend, Indiana 2000

BUZZ-POP! (2004)

Performance Worksheet for Classrooms (grades 3-5)

ARRANGEMENTS

Lift Every Voice and Sing (1997) 4'

Wind Quintet, Wind Quartet

Abyssinian Church, New York 1997

Every Time I Feel The Spirit (1999) 3'

Wind Quintet

First Presbyterian Church,

Basking Ridge, NJ 2000

Little David Play on Your Harp (1999) 3'

Wind Quintet

First Presbyterian Church,

Basking Ridge, NJ 2000

N'Kosi Si Ke Lel 'i Afrika (2001) 5'

New Jersey City University

Jersey City, NJ 2000

Steal Away (2003) 7'

Wind Quintet

University of Maryland, College Park 2003