

DINOS CONSTANTINIDES

**Concerto for Violin and
Piano**

LRC 142a



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Concerto for Violin and Piano, in three movements, was completed in 1994. It was premiered by violinist Walter Verdehr and the LSU New Music Ensemble under the direction of the composer during the 50th Annual Festival of Contemporary Music at Louisiana State University on February 17, 1995. The first movement, "Patterns I," was commissioned by the Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts and the Montgomery Performing Arts Company for the opening of the 1989-90 Promenade Concert Series. The third movement, "Patterns II," composed in 1994, is the counterpart of "Patterns I." Both "Patterns" are based upon contrasting musical ideas organized within a tight framework. Free slow sections alternate with fast rhythmic ones leading to frenzied endings. The middle movement, "Idyll," was written in 1994. "Idyll" is based on a three-note figure which first appears at the beginning of the solo violin. This figure is transformed throughout the composition into several rhythmic and melodic ideas and in various tonal centers. Sometimes it acts as a short motive, sometimes as a part of a long phrase, and sometimes as a counterpoint. Its upward leap of Perfect Fifth followed by steps in the opposite direction gives the romantic flavor that the composer wanted. Notable examples of this figuration can be found in the many romantic violin concertos of the 19th and 20th centuries.

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The music of Dinos Constantinides has been performed throughout the world. He is the recipient of many grants, commissions and awards, including first prize in the 1981 Brooklyn College International Chamber Opera Competition and the 1985 First Midwest Chamber Opera Conference. He also received the 1985 American New Music Consortium Distinguished Service Award, the 1989 Glen Award of l'Ensemble of New York, several Meet the Composer grants and numerous ASCAP Standard Awards. In the 1994 he was honored with a Distinguished Teacher White House Commission on Presidential Scholars.