

DINOS CONSTANTINIDES

**New Orleans
Divertimento**

LRC 162



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Concerto for Brass Quintet and Orchestra

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duration: 27:00 min.

The **New Orleans Divertimento** was inspired by the frequent visits of the composer to the colorful “French Quarter” of New Orleans. Living in Louisiana for over thirty years, as professor of composition at LSU, he has had ample opportunities to study the tradition of this very attractive place. New Orleans, the birthplace of jazz and blues, provides continuous entertainment to its many visitors. A walk through the French Quarter gives an idea of the very roots of American Music.

The composer of the present work has tried to portray the basic elements of the culture of New Orleans by using jazz ideas, blues harmonies, idiomatic rhythms, and quotations from existing music of this city. The format of the piece resembles the format of *Pictures at an Exhibition* by Modest Mussorgsky. This piece is commissioned by and dedicated to Dima Nicu and the Armonic Brass Quintet of the Filharmonica Marea Neagr Orchestra of Romania.

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.