

## KATHRYN ALEXANDER BIO, 350

Composer Kathryn Alexander, a 2006 recipient of a Guggenheim Fellowship, has written a wide variety of works, both acoustic and technological. Her pieces draw upon a range of disciplines to develop formal schema that distill from the abstract rather than from literal, programmatic meaning. The result is a varied repertoire described variously by critics as music in which "... the gestures were bolder, the moods more volatile, the climaxes more clearly marked and - most significant - the sounds enormously more colorful," and where "... the instrumentalists out-Bartoked Bartok in their extramusical pursuits."

In addition to the Guggenheim Fellowship, Alexander has been awarded a Radcliffe Fellowship at the Center for Advanced Study at Harvard University (2004-2005), a Composer's Fellowship from the National Endowment for the Arts (1989-1990), and the Rome Prize (1988-1989). She has won annual awards from ASCAP (1993-2006) and has held residencies at the MacDowell Colony (1994/1989), The Millay Colony (1990), The Virginia Center for the Arts (1990), Yaddo (1989), and the Atlantic Center for the Arts (1986). Alexander was a composition fellow of the Vermont Chamber Music Festival of the East (1998), the Words and Music Festival at Indiana University (1994), June-in-Buffalo (1987), and The Tanglewood Music Center (1985).

Alexander's recent works include: *AroundAbout* (2007), a piano trio for the Williams Chamber Players; *In The Purest Air, Sapphirine* (2006), a chamber concerto for electric jazz guitar soloist, Mark Dancigers, and The NOW Ensemble; and *Dreams and Reveries* (2005), a percussion quartet for the Yale Percussion Group.

A native Texan, Alexander comes from a musical family. She completed her Bachelor's degree at Baylor University, studying with flutist Helen Ann Shanley, and then went on to The Cleveland Institute of Music to work with flutist Maurice Sharp. While there she began to compose. Alexander studied composition with Donald Erb and Eugene O'Brien at The Cleveland Institute of Music and later earned her DMA in composition at the Eastman School of Music, working with Samuel Adler, Barbara Kolb, Allan Schindler and Joseph Schwantner, and studied with Leon Kirchner at the Tanglewood Music Center. She currently teaches composition and music technology at Yale University.