Brooklyn College

Composers' forum

Guest Seminars, Fall 2006

Open to all Conservatory students and visitors



JOHN MELBY

Voice and Electro-Acoustic Playback

John Melby studied composition with Henry Weinberg, George Crumb, Peter Westergaard, J. K. Randall, and Milton Babbitt. He taught from 1971 until 1973 at West Chester State College (now West Chester University) in Pennsylvania. In 1973 he was appointed to the Composition/Theory faculty in the School of Music of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, where he was Professor of Music until his retirement in August of 1997 and where he now holds the title of Professor Emeritus.

He is best known for his music written for computer-synthesized tape, either in combination with live performers or for computer alone. He is also the composer of a number of orchestral works.

Melby's compositions have won numerous awards and have been widely performed both in the United States and abroad. He was the recipient of an NEA Fellowship in 1977, a Guggenheim Fellowship in 1983, an award from the American Academy and Institute of Arts and Letters in 1984, and an associateship in the University of Illinois Center for Advanced Study in 1989-90. His awards include several at the International Electroacoustic Music Awards (Bourges, France), where he received First Prize in 1979 for his "Chor der Steine" for computer-synthesized tape.

In recent years, he has composed a series of concerti for various instruments and tape. He has also composed for the voice, his *Two Stevens Songs*, one of several works incorporating poems by Wallace Stevens, being one of his most frequently performed compositions.



Tuesday, November 14, 2006 1:30 PM - 250 Gershwin

free admission