Especially commissioned by Composers & High Schools in Concert and premiered by the Rio Americano High School Concert Band

General Remarks

The Spanish Fiesta for concert band is structured in simple ternary form. Its material pulls from Spanish, South American and American big band jazz traditions.

It is South American in that the larger outer A sections feature the samba – the Brazilian dance with its roots in Brazil (Rio De Janeiro) and Africa.

It is Spanish in the sense that it features a baritone sax solo over a repetitious malaguena rhythm. The traditional harmonic chord sequence also is typical of traditional Spanish dance.

The Rio Americano High School has continuously won Down Beat Magazine's coveted best jazz high school ensemble in the nation. Since many of its distinguished members also perform in the concert band, I thought I would feature the concert band in the A sections and highlight the jazz ensemble throughout the baritone sax solo.

A brief slow introduction hints the characteristic motive and rhythmic pattern to come. The recapitulation of material A introduced after the B contrasting section returns with little modification.

It is with great joy and estimable praise that I present this new work through the generous support of Lisa A. Oman, Founder of Composers & Schools in Concert to the group and its director, Mr. Josh Murray.

Christopher Caliendo Hollywood, California August 27th, 2011

Instrumentation

2 Flutes (2nd doubling piccolo)
1 oboes
2 Clarinets in Bb1
Alto Sax
Tenor Sax
Baritone Sax
1 Bassoon

2 Horns in F 3 Trumpets in Bb 3 Trombones Bass Trombone Tuba

Timpani

5 Percussionists

Percussion 1 – Marimba, Snare Drum Percussion 2 – Triangle, Claves, Bongos Percussion 3 – Maracas, Tambourine Percussion 4 – Triangle, Tambourine, Cabasa Percusson 5 – Cowbell, Castanets

Piano

Double Bass

Spanish Fiesta



