



PO Box 192125
San Francisco, CA
94119-2125
earplay@earplay.org
www.earplay.org
415 585 9776

Contact: Aislinn Scofield
Executive Director/Earplay

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: CLASSICAL NEW CHAMBER MUSIC

2006 WINNER: EARPLAY Donald Aird Memorial COMPOSERS COMPETITION

San Francisco: Earplay announces the winning composition of the **2006 EARPLAY DONALD AIRD MEMORIAL COMPOSERS COMPETITION**. ***Cinco Transfiguraciones Llanas*** (Five Transfiguration Plains) by Mirtru Escalona-Mijares (Venezuela) is the winning composition and carries a \$1,000.00 cash prize with a performance during Earplay's 22nd season. The solo flute work was selected from 148 entries from twenty countries by a panel of composers and performers specializing in contemporary chamber music. The panelists also selected four finalist compositions: *Musica Osservata* by Stefano Bonilauri (Italy); *views into the mirrorcity* by Burkhard Friedrich (Germany); *De relieve doble* by José Luis Hurtado (Mexico); and *Mediasi Ukiran V - Tenunan XII* by Tazul Izan Tajuddin (Malaysia/England).

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Mitru Escalona-Mijares (b. 1976) completed his initial studies in Venezuela with Rafael Saaverdra and Gerado Gerulewicz. He completed his studies in electroacoustic music with Christine Groult at the “Ecole Nationale de Musique de Pantin” where he obtained



the “Diplome des études musicales” (DEM) with distinction, in 2003 and the prize of the completion of studies by the SACEM. He is currently attending the specialization class of Philippe Leroux at the Ecole Nationale de Musique de Blanc-Mesnil. Mitru Escalona-Mijares has collaborated with various ensembles and institutions such as the National Council of Culture of Venezuela, the International meeting of composition – Syntono, Hochschule für Musik Franz Liszt Weimar, Centre de Création Musicale Iannis Xenakis (CCMIX), and Cité Internationale Universitaire de Paris.

The Deadline for the 2007 EARPLAY DONALD AIRD MEMORIAL COMPOSERS COMPETITION is **October 28, 2006**. See www.earplay.org for details.

Past winners are: Massimo Lauricella and Shintaro Imai (2001); Christophe Bertrand (2002); João Pedro Oliveira (2003); Vincent Chee-Yung Ho (2004); and Fredrik Fahlman (2005).

Earplay concerts feature the **Earplayers**, a group of seven outstanding Bay Area artists who, as a group, have developed a lyrical and ferocious style. Led by Conductor **Mary Chun**, the **Earplayers** are: **Tod Brody**, flute and piccolo; **Peter Josheff**, clarinet and bass clarinet; **Terrie Baune**, violin; **Ellen Ruth Rose**, viola; **Thalia Moore**, cello, and **Karen Rosenak**, piano.

Founded in 1985 by a consortium of composers and musicians, Earplay is dedicated to the performance of new chamber music offering audiences a unique opportunity to hear eloquent, vivid performances of some of today's finest chamber music. For more information, please visit www.earplay.org.

Upcoming concerts:
De Young Museum
Friday, August 18, 6:30 pm
Koret Auditorium

Earplay 22: Musing
Monday, September 18, 2006
Herbst Theatre, San Francisco

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