



Roger Zare has been praised for his “enviable grasp of orchestration” (New York Times) and for writing music with “formal clarity and an alluringly mercurial surface.” He was born in Sarasota, FL, and has written for a wide variety of ensembles, from solo instruments to choir to full orchestra. Often inspired by science, nature, astronomy, mathematics, and mythology, his colorfully descriptive works have been performed across the United States and on five continents by such ensembles as the American Composers Orchestra, the Minnesota Orchestra, the Sarasota Orchestra, the Omaha Chamber Symphony, the Aspen Music Festival Contemporary Ensemble, the New York Youth Symphony, the Donald Sinta Quartet, and F-PLUS. An award-

winning composer, Zare has received the ASCAP Nissim Prize, three BMI Student Composer Awards, an ASCAP Morton Gould award, a New York Youth Symphony First Music Commission, the 2008 American Composers Orchestra Underwood Commission, a Charles Ives Scholarship from the American Academy of Arts and Letters, a Copland House Residency Award, and many other local and regional honors. He has been composer in residence at the Salt Bay Chamber Music Festival, the Chamber Music Festival of Lexington, the Chesapeake Chamber Music Festival, and the SONAR New Music Ensemble. Festivals and workshops that he has attended include the Aspen Music Festival and School, Cabrillo Festival, the Intimacy of Creativity (Hong Kong), Copland House’s CULTIVATE, the Florida State University Festival of New Music, the New Music Gathering, the Bowling Green State University New Music Festival, the Indiana State University Contemporary Music Festival, the Gabriela Lena Frank Creative Academy of Music, and the Bowdoin International Music Festival.

Zare is especially interested in interdisciplinary collaboration, drawing from his interests in science and nature. In 2014 Zare partnered with CERN to present his saxophone quartet inspired by the Large Hadron Collider, the world’s premier particle physics laboratory, *LHC*, performed by the Donald Sinta Quartet at the Montreux Jazz Festival in Switzerland in a program featuring the collision of music and physics. Zare’s continued collaboration with CERN brought him to Sofia, Bulgaria in 2018, where he presented a new piano trio arrangement of *LHC* at the Sofia Science Festival and the Bulgarian National Academy of Music. Most of Zare’s works are published by his own publishing company, Roger Zare Music, and he has other works published by the Theodore Presser Company, Manhattan Beach Music, and the FJH Music Company. Commercially available recordings of Zare’s music include *Mare Tranquillitatis* by the Columbus State University Wind Ensemble, *Lift-Off* by the UNT Wind Symphony, *Variations on Reverse Entropy* by the Akropolis Reed Quintet, *LHC* and *Z(4430)* by the Donald Sinta Quartet, and *Dark and Stormy Night* for piano and ping pong balls by Kayako Matsunaga.

Zare holds a DMA ('12) from the University of Michigan, where he has studied with Michael Daugherty, Paul Schoenfield, Bright Sheng, and Kristin Kuster. He holds degrees from the Peabody Conservatory (MM '09) and the University of Southern California (BM '07), and his previous teachers include Christopher Theofanidis, Derek Bermel, David Smooke, Donald Crockett, Tamar Diesendruck, Fredrick Lesemann, and Morten Lauridsen. Zare currently serves as an instructional assistant professor of music theory and composition at Illinois State University, and is a member of the Blue Dot Collective.