

Nicolas Tzortzis

EARPLAY 2008 WINNER: Donald Aird Memorial COMPOSERS COMPETITION

Amenable (2006) by **Nicolas Tzortzis** (Greece) is the winning composition and carries a \$1,000.00 cash prize with a performance during Earplay's 24th season on May 20, 2009. The clarinet, violin, cello, and piano composition was selected from 132 entries from 14 countries by a panel of composers and performers specializing in contemporary chamber music. The panelists also selected, ***Holes and Bones*** (2002) by **Clara Maïda** (France) to receive an **Honorable Mention**. ***Consecutio Temporum*** (2002) by **Tolga Yayalar** (Turkey) is a **finalist**. Two **semi-finalist** compositions were chosen: ***...`a son demier soupir*** (2006) by **Martin Iddon** (United Kingdom) and ***String Trio in Two Movements*** (2004) by **Suzanne Sorkin** (U.S.). Earplay's conductor, **Mary Chun** comments about the winning composition, *Dark and moody in atmosphere, Tzortzis' reveals a fine ear for timbre and movement in Amenable pitting a highly articulated, forceful piano part against the mysterious, lyric trio of clarinet, violin and cello. Tzortzis's notes capture a process of questioning convictions, questioning, changing, and becoming richer for the change before starting again.*

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Earplay
560 29th St.
San Francisco, California 94131-2239
US

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