

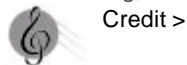
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**Schoenberg/Wuorinen Variations**



Photo © Paul Kolnik

**Music** Variations for Orchestra, Op. 31 (1928) by Arnold Schoenberg, arranged for two pianos by Charles Wuorinen



**Choreography** Richard Tanner

**Premiere** July 24, 1996, New York City Ballet, Saratoga Performing Arts Center

**Original Cast** Maria Kowroski, Miranda Weese, Diana White, Nilas Martins, Jock Soto, Philip Neal

**NYCB Premiere** January 24, 1997, New York City Ballet, New York State Theater

**Average Length** 21 min.

Arnold Schoenberg (1874-1951), was born in Vienna, Austria, and was initially greatly influenced by the work of Wagner. Subsequently he developed an entirely new mode of composition, based on the twelve-tone scale and the tone row. Schoenberg made his living as a teacher (his pupils included both Webern and Berg) and as a conductor of theater orchestras. He fled the Nazi regime and came to the United States, where he taught music at UCLA. He was also a noted painter of the Expressionist School. Charles Wuorinen was born in New York City in 1938. At the age of sixteen he won the Composer's Award of the New York Philharmonic. He studied at Columbia University, and was the founder and co-director of the Group for Contemporary Music. His works include symphonies, chamber music, concerti, and electronic music. In 1970, he became the youngest composer ever to win the Pulitzer Prize; in 1986 he received a MacArthur Foundation Fellowship. Schoenberg/Wuorinen Variations is the fourth piece he has composed for New York City Ballet; his previous works are Five for the 1988 American Music Festival, Delight of the Muses in 1992, and Reliquary in 1996.

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— George Balanchine

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