

*Figuration* was composed in 1980 and given its première in Carnegie Recital Hall in April, 1981, by Meyer Kupferman (to whom it is dedicated), David Moore, and Kazuko Hayami.

The organizing principle of the piece involves strong assertions by the piano that are reacted to by the clarinet and cello, which together form a unit. As this duo-within-a-trio ruminates, gathers confidence and settles on a course of action, the piano supplies background color of trills, tremolos and various other sorts of figuration--hence the title.

This intense, concentrated work lasts a little over seven minutes.

--RW