

MUSIC AT A GLANCE

# BAMA concert draws from electronics, 'found' notes

**Who composed:** Seven Birmingham Art Music Alliance composers aired their work Sept. 28 at Alabama School of Fine Arts.

**Who performed:** New music devotees from area schools and colleges.

**Best of the cutting edge:** Fresh from her Rome residency, Dorothy Hindman produced a personal view of the trials of learning a new language in the cleverly scored "Lost in Translation" for soprano saxophone and piano. Michael Angell's how'd-he-do-that? electronics had the sound of Donnie Ashworth's live flute flying around the room in "Playing the Wheel."

**What almost worked:** James Jensen's vivid, lusciously harmonic song, "Crown" was flawed by a soprano part that was scored too high. The Old West met the avant garde in Kurt Carpenter's variations on "Comin' Round the Mountain," a thickly-scored piano solo with the mood swings of a silent movie soundtrack.

**Unexpected reward:** UAB grad and Birmingham-Southern

masters student Brian Moon set texts from scraps of paper he found in places like shopping carts and puddles and came up with five engaging songs in "Politics of Lost and Found" for soprano, flute and piano. The cleverly repetitious "I am not mad," and jazzy, Weill-inspired "The shopping list" (alcohol, razor blades, aspirin) had me wanting to hear more from this young composer.

*Michael Huebner*