University of Washington
THE SCHOOL OF MUSIC
in conjunction with

PERFORMA'87
A FESTIVAL OF NEW WORKS

presents its ninth concert of the 1987-88 season:

THE U.W. CONTEMPORARY GROUP
Stuart Dempster and
William O. Smith, Co-Directors

in a 50th anniversary celebration of
American Composers Alliance (ACA)

and a

Performa '87 commission sponsored by the King County Arts Commission

November 16, 1987  8:00 PM, Meany Theater
Four Kauai Studies were written in November and December of 1982. They commemorate a trip taken along the north shore of Kauai. Hanalei (“crescent bay”) is a small town on the north shore of the island. A narrow, picturesque road leaves Hanalei and passes Haena beach (“wilderness” or “red-hot love”), which is near the Kalalau trailhead. The trail threads its way along cliffs and descends into lush tropical valleys garlanded by waterfalls. Hanakapiai (“bay sprinkling food”) is one of these. Its spectacular backdrop of cliffs is Hanakoa (“bay of warriors or Koa trees”). Kalalau (“straying”) itself, several miles farther past numerous tinkling streams, is a grand valley with sides of sheer fluted cliffs and a magnificent beach. To sit on this beach, to view the green cliffs and the sea, is to feel uncanny awe and peace. It is like being at the ends of the earth—or the beginning.

The character of Hanalei is light and fluid, but occasionally flashes of menacing fire shine through, especially near the end. In Haena we are never far from the ever-changing sea. Hanakapiai is a virtuoso interlude. It was written in memory of Robert Miller. Partly a synthesis of the other three Studies, Hanakoa was written in memory of Emil Danenburg.

A native of Salem, Oregon, Walter Winslow began composing and studying piano at an early age. He studied composition with Richard Hoffman at Oberlin College, receiving degrees summa cum laude in composition and Russian in 1970. Continuing composition studies at the University of California, Berkeley, with Edwin Dugger, Andrew Imrie and Olly Wilson, he received his Ph.D. in 1975. Since then he has taught at Berkeley, Oberlin and Reed College, and has recently joined the faculty of Columbia University. Among his awards is a 1986 Guggenheim Fellowship.