

#### **D. Friedman, *Chanukah celebrations***

Canadian composer Daniel Friedman began piano studies at age seven. After numerous festival and competition successes, he attended and completed a four year performer's diploma at the Royal College of Music in London England, under the guidance of the late Sir Kendall Taylor. After college, Mr. Friedman completed his undergraduate degree at Queen's University before venturing to the United States to complete his Master's degree at the Peabody Institute in Baltimore, Maryland.

One of Mr. Friedman first compositions was a series of twenty-four piano *Preludes*, all in different keys and connected in the same manner that Chopin's preludes are. The piece was premiered at Toronto's St. Lawrence Centre back in April of 1990 and have been extensively performed since. Mr. Friedman also appeared as a pianist in the premiere of his own piano concerto with the Northumberland Symphony in 1996.

Mr. Friedman wrote his first short film score for the movie *Harry Weinberg's Notebook*. In February 1991, his first orchestral work *Overture* was given its world premiere by Kerry Stratton and the North York Symphony Orchestra. His orchestral works have been performed across Canada by renowned orchestras including the National Arts Centre Orchestra, the Kitchener-Waterloo Symphony, Symphony New Brunswick, the Okanagan Symphony Orchestra, and many others.

Mr. Friedman is instructor in composition at the Thornhill Chamber Music Institute.

*Chanukah Celebrations* is dedicated to "My beautiful daughter Tova Hannah" and was completed in 1997 and received its world premiere in December of the same year under the baton of Atis Bankas and the Canadian Chamber Academy. A year later, it received a repeat performance with Orchestra Toronto and conductor Monique Martin.

*Chanukah Celebrations* is in four movements (Battle, Meditation, Rededication and Dance ) and was inspired by the history of the Holy Temple in Jerusalem and the struggle of the Maccabees. Friedman grew up surrounded by Israeli folk melody. Works that have been influenced by his background include tonight's work, his orchestral Overture no. 2 and his Dramatic Cantata (a multi-movement choral composition).