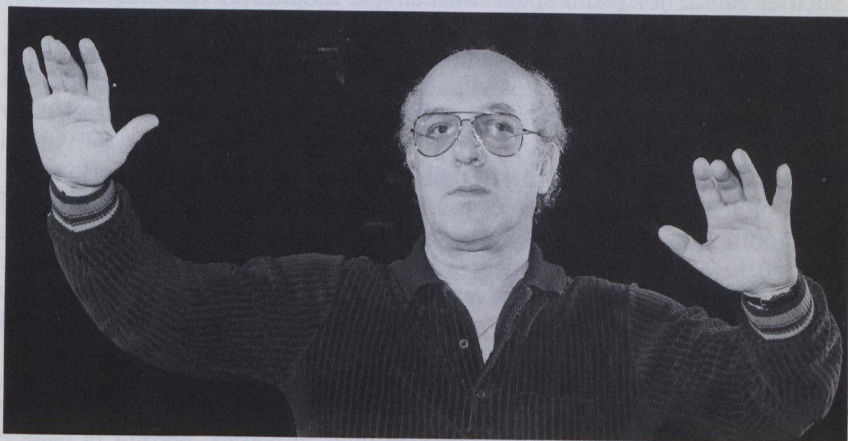

His writings reveal various influences. At first, he fell under the spell of works by Stravinsky. Later his inspiration came from the great trends in French music, and then from the compositions of Hindemith and Varèse. His diversified but firmly structured output exhibits a sensitivity rich in sound effects. Various *Pièces concertantes* (1957-63) and *Viole d'Amour* (1966) are good examples.



Serge Garant, composer, was a professor at the University of Montreal, a conductor of new music and a broadcaster. (Photo: André Tremblay)

Quebec composers

The best-known and most often performed French Canadian composers abroad are Serge Garant (1929-86), Gilles Tremblay (1932) and Claude Vivier (1948-83).

Serge Garant, mostly self-taught, rapidly established himself not only as a composer but also as a popular professor at the University of Montreal, a respected conductor of new music, and an influential broadcaster. And, as co-founder and music director of the Société de musique contemporaine du Québec (1966), he considerably advanced the performance of new music and the shaping of musical taste. Among his compositions are three series: *Offrande I, II and III*, *Phrases I and II*, *Quintette* and *Chants d'Amour*.

Gilles Tremblay studied under Quebec's musical patriarchs — Claude Champagne and Jean Papineau-Couture. In turn, he passed on his knowledge to younger composers at his classes at the Montreal Conservatory. Tremblay is an intellectual composer and his search for new sonorities and poetic symbolism inspired such pieces as *Fleuves* for orchestra, *Solstices* for four ensembles and *Oralléluiants* for soprano and eight players.