**Piece Title:** Fugue  
**Composer:** William Russell  
**Performer:** College of St. Scholastica and University of Wisconsin-Superior Percussion Ensembles

The *Fugue* is a singularly American composition. It was composed less than a year after the more celebrated and controversial *Ionisation* by Edgard Varèse, of which Russell had no knowledge. Nor was Russell aware of the ‘primitive’ musical compositions of Europe such as those of Alexander Mossolov, Imre Weisshaus, and Dimitri Shostakovich, or of the handful of early percussion works by Cubans Amadeo Roldan and Alejandro Caturla. –Jeremy Craycraft