8. Mele Sue, 1986

(I am Young)



Mele Sue

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Kenneth Kafui

Kenneth Kafui (ka-FOO-ee) (b. 1951) is a composer and teacher from the West African country of Ghana. He learned to play the <u>harmonium</u>, and he became the school organist at his high school where his father was also the music teacher. He later studied music at the University of Ghana in the country's capital city of Legon.

Kafui was guest composer for the Ghana Broadcasting Corporation Orchestra in 1978. He taught at the National Academy of Music in Ghanaian city of Winneba, and later became the conductor of the Ghana National Symphony Orchestra. In 1987, he received an award for best contemporary art music composer in Ghana. He is currently a lecturer in music theory and composition at the University of Ghana.

Recognized as one of the leading Ghanaian composers of his generation, he has written music for choir, orchestra, piano, organ, and for traditional African instruments. His music often includes Ghanaian rhythms, and his choral music often uses local Ghanaian languages.

The **harmonium** is a type of freereed organ, which is lighter and more portable than pipe organs.

