

BORN TO BE MILD

WORKS FOR
TRUMPET BY

BRUCE BROUGHTON

JAMES STEPHENSON, III

ERIC EWAZEN

LOUIS STEWART

JOSEPH TURRIN

RICHARD STOELZEL
TRUMPET

TIANSHU WANG
PIANO

ALHAMBRA
Entertainment

It was my desire to record a compact disc that would exploit the lyrical and "mild" side of the trumpet. What better way to achieve this than through performing the works of the composers represented on this recording. I am both very humbled and excited to have recorded works composed for me by such outstanding and gifted composers as Eric Ewazen and James Stephenson, III. I would also like to thank Dan Patrylak for his unwavering and constant support.

—Richard Stoetzel

Bruce Broughton

Oliver's Birthday (1998)

Bruce Broughton is one of the most versatile composers working today. He is not only a great film composer, but he has also written major orchestral works including *The Magic Horn*, which was commissioned jointly by the Chicago, Seattle and National Symphonies, a piccolo concerto, a tuba concerto and several works for chamber ensembles and wind ensembles, including *Excursions*, commissioned by the United States Air Force Band in Washington, D.C.

Broughton is Artistic Director and Principal Conductor of the Sinfonia of London, and is currently a governor of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences. He has taught film composition in the Advanced Film Music Studies program at the University of Southern California and is a lecturer at UCLA.

Among his many film and television credits are: *Silverado*, *Young Sherlock Holmes*, *Lost in Space*, *Miracle on 34th Street*, *Presidio*, *The Rescuers Down Under*, and the two popular *Homeward Bound* adventures.

His television credits include the main title themes for *JAG* and *Dinosaurs* and scores for *Amazing Stories*, *Quincy*, and *How the West Was Won*. His made for television movies include *The Old Man and the Sea*, and miniseries like *The Blue and the Gray* and *True Women*. With 17 nominations, he has received the Emmy Award six times, most recently for his Americana score to the highly rated Hallmark Hall of Fame, *O Pioneers!*.

Broughton's music is notable for its wonderfully rich harmonic language, flowing melodies, and especially for its rhythmic interest and vitality.

Oliver's Birthday is a wonderfully lively and simplistic melody that spins off into a flurry of mixed meters and tonalities.

James M. Stephenson, III

Sonata for Trumpet and Piano

Although employed as a professional trumpeter, James Stephenson also enjoys an active career as a composer/arranger, having more than 100 arrangements and compositions to his credit. He has been performed on a Boston Pops TV Broadcast (*Pops goes the Fourth*) with Keith Lockhart, and is highlighted on several Cincinnati Pops Telarc recordings with Erich Kunzel. His music has been performed by the Cleveland Orchestra, the Detroit Symphony, the Florida Orchestra, the Chicago Chamber Orchestra, and the Naples Philharmonic. His *Compose Yourself!* is used to introduce many elementary schoolchildren to the instruments of the orchestra. He was presented a gold medal of achievement at the 1997 festival in St. Barths where his *St. Barths Overture* was premiered. His compositions and arrangements have also been heard in Japan, China, France, Italy, Canada and throughout the United States. He has served as Assistant

abroad, and at festivals such as Tanglewood, Aspen, and the Music Academy of the West. Although he has received wide recognition in the brass world for his chamber, solo works, and concerti for brass instruments, his extensive catalog includes works for all sorts of instrumental combinations (even a quintet for heckelphone and strings).

Ballade for a Ceremony, subtitled "A Marriage Ballade," was composed in 1999. The work is in three parts: a lyric opening melody, simply accompanied; a contrasting, more animated middle section (itself in two parts), concluding with an abbreviated reprise of the opening.

Pastorale for Trumpet, Trombone and Piano (1996) is an arrangement of the middle movement of an earlier work, the *Ballade, Pastorale and Dance* for flute, horn, and piano. This version was written for the Arcopagetica Trio at Mannes College.

The *Pastorale* supports a traditional design (ternary) with an unusual tonal plan. The opening *Andante con moto* is firmly in B-flat major, with relatively little harmonic movement; arpeggiated figures in the piano support the brass instruments' melodic material. A transitional passage features wide-ranging melodic lines in the two solo instruments, and moves to the key of D.

The central section of the movement (*poco piu mosso*) focuses on sharp-side keys (D, A, and finally F#), as the soloists' material becomes increasingly rhapsodic. The tempo is considerably expanded. A tonally restless reworking of the opening material (centered on C#) is followed by a full reprise of the opening in its original tonality, followed in turn by an elegiac, harmonically static coda, rocking back

and forth between E-flat major and B-flat major triads.

Louis Stewart

Folk Music

Louis Stewart, a faculty member of the Berklee College of Music, received his undergraduate degree from Whitman College, his M.M. from the New England Conservatory of Music and a D.M.A. from the Peabody Institute. He has guest conducted the Nusantara Symphony Orchestra in Jakarta, Indonesia and has been a piano soloist with several orchestras in Boston. He has received grants from Meet the Composer for the Naked Feet Dance Company and the Baltimore Improvisation Ensemble. He has composed two musicals, a *Concertino for Piano and Band* and *Landscapes of T.S. Eliot* for chorus.

The composer comments: *Folk Music* was written in the summer of 1998 as a recital piece for the principal trumpet of the Anchorage Symphony, Linn Weeda. My intention was to use the folksong "He's Gone Away" as a basis for a short composition in ABA form. The A sections use the folk song without much elaboration other than my own brand of harmonic language. The middle section, however, provides a lively contrast making use of motives from the folk song as if to provide a small amount of development. The hope for the work was to write a small work in length that might sound bigger than it actually is.

Eric Ewazen

Prayer and Praise

Prayer and Praise was composed in 2002. Although Ewazen studied with two prominent serial composers (Schuller and Babbitt), *Prayer and*

around a recurrent fanfare motif that provides the material for even the most melodically expressive episodes. The music is in an ABA form, with an off-beat blues feel to some of the writing, and towards the close, a kind of jazzy scat line for trumpet over a walking bass line in the piano. The last cadenza is the climax of the work. It is followed by a quiet, haunting tune over a pedaled piano ostinato, varied from an earlier passage. The piece then picks up with a quick jaunt to a flourish to the final concert C#.

Eric Ewazen

Grand Valley Fanfare

Grand Valley Fanfare was composed in 2001 for the inauguration of Mark Murray as President of Grand Valley State University, in Allendale, MI. The premiere performance was given by the Avatar Brass Quintet, founded by Richard Stoelzel. The fanfare deftly combines Ewazen's innate lyric gift with a flair for contrapuntal intrigue, in the context of a four-minute perpetual motion tour de force.

Richard Stoelzel

Richard Stoelzel is equally at home as a soloist, chamber musician and orchestral musician. He began his career as solo cornet with the United States Coast Guard Band, a premier band. In this position Stoelzel performed numerous command performances for Presidents Ronald Reagan and George Bush. As a soloist he has performed two tours of China resulting in being honored with the title and position of "Distinguished Visiting Professor" at the Shenyang Conservatory in Shenyang, China, one of three American musicians

China National Symphony's principal trumpet Dai Zhonghui and recitals and masterclasses at Beijing's prestigious Central Conservatory. As an orchestral musician, Stoelzel performed as assistant principal trumpet before winning the national audition for principal trumpet with the New Orleans Symphony. He has held positions with the Colorado Music Festival, Bear Lake Music Festival (Utah), Miami City Ballet, Ballet Florida, Baton Rouge Symphony, New World Symphony, and Asaph Orchestra. Stoelzel has also performed with the Baltimore Symphony, Louisville Orchestra, and Jacksonville and Naples Philharmonics. He currently serves as principal trumpet of the Palm Beach Opera Orchestra and is a member of the Des Moines Metro Opera Orchestra. As a chamber musician, he is the founder, principal trumpet and director for the highly acclaimed Avatar Brass; a founding member of the New World Brass Quintet; and has toured with the Chestnut Brass Quintet.

Richard Stoelzel has recorded with the Louisville Orchestra (First Editions Recordings), Baltimore Symphony (for PBS broadcasts), New Orleans Symphony, U.S. Coast Guard Band, Dallas Wind Symphony, and Asaph Orchestra in addition to three recording with the Avatar brass.

Stoelzel is professor of trumpet and head of the brass program at Grand Valley State University. He was the winner of the 1986 International Trumpet Guild Mock Orchestra Competition and has appeared as soloist, competition judge and chair of both the solo and orchestra competitions for this organization. A piccolo trumpet method book and a

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Richard Stoelzel and son Gabriel

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TEL: 518.436.8814 FAX: 518.436.0643 WWW.ALBANYRECORDS.COM

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