

for Linda Strommen

# DOWN A RIVER OF TIME

A Concerto for Oboe and String Orchestra  
edition for Oboe and Piano by the composer

SU434

Eric Ewazen

## I. ...past hopes and dreams

**Allegro risoluto** (♩ = 60)

2 3 *f*

6 *fp* *f* 8

10

15 *f* 19

20

24 25 *mf*

29

33

37



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## II. ...and sorrows

Andante, Largo e mesto (♩ = 58 - 63)

8 9 *p* *mp*

14 17 *p* *mp* 3

22 23 *p* *cresc.* 27 *mf* *cresc.*

28 31 *f*

33 35 3 38 39 *pp* *p* //

41 43 *p*

46 47 *mp*

52 55 57 *mf*

60

67

74

84 //



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### III. ...and memories of tomorrow

Allegro energico (♩ = 126 - 132)

3

mf

5

9

13

14

18

22

2

24

mp

27

p

mf

30

p

34

38

42

53

SI

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## About the Work

"Down a River of Time", a three movement concerto for oboe and string orchestra, is a journey, an alternately wistful and joyous contemplation on memories of the happy and sad times of life, on loved ones who have passed away, and on the importance of dreams and ideals. The work begins with rich oboe melodies and resonant harmonies, suggesting passionately felt hopes and dreams, as one embraces the possibilities of life and love; the music is energetic and uplifting. The second movement, cast as an oboe soliloquy, gazes upon the sadness of loss and grief; the supporting accompaniment comments with ribbons of melodies. The final movement strikes a note of acceptance and understanding with ever-present hope for future happiness and a comfort in life-long memories; the music ends buoyantly, reaching upward, the oboe singing virtuoso songs of ultimate content.

"Down a River of Time" is gratefully dedicated to Linda Strommen, who premiered the work with the American Sinfonietta under the direction of Michael Palmer, at the Bellingham Festival of Music (Bellingham, Washington) on August 14, 1999.

## About the Composer

Eric Ewazen was born in 1954 in Cleveland, Ohio. He studied composition with Samuel Adler, Milton Babbitt, Warren Benson, Gunther Schuller, and Joseph Schwantner at the Eastman School of Music, Tanglewood and The Juilliard School, where he received his DMA. He has been a member of the faculty at Juilliard since 1980, composer-in-residence with the St. Luke's Chamber Ensemble of New York City, lecturer for the New York Philharmonic's Musical Encounter Series and vice-president of the League of Composers-ISCM.

A recipient of numerous composition awards and prizes, his works have been commissioned and performed by many chamber ensembles and orchestras around the world. Soloists in performance of his music include members of the New York Philharmonic, the Philadelphia Orchestra, the Boston Symphony, the Cleveland Orchestra, the Chicago Symphony, the Metropolitan Opera Orchestra, and the Vienna Philharmonic. His music has been heard at festivals such as Woodstock, Tanglewood, Aspen, Cramoor, and the Music Academy of the West.

His chamber music and his sonatas for wind and brass instruments have quickly become staples of the repertory. Southern Music Company has published a number of compositions by Dr. Ewazen, including his sonatas for trumpet, horn and trombone; the *Concerto for Tuba (or Bass Trombone)*; *Concerto for Trumpet and Strings*; *Roaring Fork Quintet* (woodwind quintet); *Ballade for Trombone (or Bass Trombone) and Piano*; *Ballade, Pastorale and Dance* for Flute, Horn and Piano; *Shadowcatcher*, a concerto for brass quintet; and *Trio for Trumpet, Violin and Piano*.

Well-Tempered Productions has released two all-Ewazen compact discs, featuring, among other ensembles and soloists, the American Brass Quintet and the St. Luke's Chamber Ensemble. Among his recorded works are the *Symphony in Brass* (Summit Brass on Summit Records), *Colchester Fantasy* (American Brass Quintet on Summit Records, and the Center City Brass Quintet on d'Note Records), *Sonata for Trombone* (Joseph Alessi on Cala Records), *Trio for Trumpet, Violin and Piano* (Philip Smith on Cala Records), *The Diamond World* (the Ahn Trio on EMI Classics), *Ballad for Clarinet, Harp, and String Orchestra* (CRS Records), *The Tiger* (Robert White, tenor, on Hyperion), *Roaring Fork Quintet* (Borealis Wind Quintet on Helicon), *Ballade, Pastorale and Dance* (Margaret Swinchoski on Albany Records), *Dagon II* (David Taylor on New World Records), and *Shadowcatcher* (the American Brass Quintet accompanied by the Juilliard Wind Ensemble on New World Records).

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The score and parts to the piano edition of DOWN A RIVER OF TIME were engraved using FINALE® music software.

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The orchestral score and parts to DOWN A RIVER OF TIME are available on a rental basis from Southern Music Company. Please telephone (210) 226-8167 or fax (210) 223-4537 or e-mail [info@southernmusic.com](mailto:info@southernmusic.com) for further information.