



MUSICSCAPES VOLUME ONE 
BODINE / BOKHOUR / BROWN / COOMAN / DREADNAUGHT / DREXLER / GAINES
GIESEN / JOHNSON / LOMBARDI / MARCUS / VOLLRATH / WARSHAUER

MUSICSCAPES VOLUME ONE

Featuring G. Bradley Bodine, Raymond Bokhour, J. Windel Brown, Carson Cooman, Dreadnaught, Richard Drexler, David Gaines, Tobias Giesen, A. Paul Johnson, Russ Lombardi, Edward Marcus, Carl Vollrath, and Meira Warshauer

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CUT ALONG DOTTED LINE

ABOUT MMC RECORDINGS

Since its formation in 1992, the Boston-based label MMC Recordings has produced and released over a thousand orchestral and chamber works by the leading lights of contemporary classical music to the acclaim of critics and listeners alike. The label's primary collaborators include luminaries such as Grammy-winning clarinetist Richard Stoltzman, conductors Gerard Schwarz, Gil Rose, Vit Micka, and Kirk Trevor as well as the London Symphony Orchestra, Seattle Symphony, Warsaw Philharmonic, Boston Modern Orchestra Project, and Slovak Radio Symphony Orchestra, among others. With industry leaders being forced to cut budgets and slash recording projects, there is little room for programming the works of living artists, but MMC remains committed to the cultivation and preservation of modern classical music. "MMC has given an enormous boost in helping to remedy the paucity of recordings of living American composers," says Stoltzman. "I'm very proud to help play a vital role in the creation of new works, their performance and recordings, their commercial viability, and their cultural historical preservation."

1) Concerto for Marimba and Orchestra, Mvmt.3 (6:49) G. Bradley Bodine

G. Bradley Bodine (b. 1960) holds degrees from The Evergreen State College, Pacific Lutheran University and the University of Arizona. He studied music composition with Daniel Asia, Stephen Scott, Gregory Youtz and Ronald Hurst. His compositions have been performed at many major music festivals throughout the United States and in Europe, and his latest composition, "Kaleidoscope: A Concerto for Marimba and Orchestra" was recorded by the Portuguese marimbist Pedro Carneiro with Gerard Schwarz and the Seattle Symphony for release on the MMC label. G. Bradley Bodine is the composer in residence at The Saint Thomas Aquinas Catholic Center at Purdue and a continuing lecturer in music theory at Purdue University. **Drew Lang** is a percussionist specializing in music for marimba. He has commissioned and premiered works for marimba in solo, chamber, and concerto settings. He is one of the most dedicated performers of the compositions of G. Bradley Bodine, commissioning four and premiering five of the composer's works. He performs regularly with the Dallas Symphony Orchestra, Dallas Opera, Dallas Wind Symphony, Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra, and Casa Mañana Musicals. **Concerto for Marimba and Orchestra** (1993) was commissioned and premiered by Drew Lang. The work was premiered at the International Festival-Institute at Round Top in 1995. For more information visit www.gbradleybodine.com.

2) Epilogue/Ghost Light (3:42) Raymond Bokhour

This piece is the 4th and final movement of **Raymond Bokhour's** music for the play **Sketches Of An Actress**; the full work was performed by the Thuringer Salonquintett at Carnegie Recital Hall through MMC. Bokhour began playing guitar at age 5, and by age 11 legendary jazz drummer Lenny White was producing his original jazz-fusion music in the studio. At 17, he entered New England Conservatory of Music where he studied composition with William Thomas McKinley and simultaneously attended Tufts University, where he discovered a deep love for theater, and began acting as well as composing for plays. While studying acting, he also managed to complete his first composition for full orchestra, "Angel Butcher," which was subsequently recorded by the Warsaw Philharmonic Orchestra for MMC. He has appeared on Broadway as Mr. Cellophane in *Chicago*, and in feature films such as *Man on the Moon* and *Changing Lanes*. He will record a new piece for string quartet with MMC in the summer of 2008, and his "London – 1999" can be heard on the label's LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA disc (MMC2111). For more information visit www.tunecore.com/music/bokhour.

3) Suite for Flute, Cello, and Piano, Mvmt. 4 (6:47) J. Windel Brown

Although he has studied harmony and composition, **J. Windel Brown** is primarily self-taught as a composer. Brown's list of works includes piano concerti, a violin concerto, and a two symphonies, as well as music for various solo instruments and chamber ensembles such as his two piano sonatas and a string quartet. In December 1998, Brown's "About Time" scored for flute and orchestra, was premiered during the MMC Contemporary Music Festival at Boston's Symphony Hall by the Czech Radio Symphony under the direction of Vladimír Válek, and featured flutist Michael Finegold, who commissioned the work. The **Suite for Flute, Cello, and Piano** was written for the Essex Chamber Music Players and is performed here by Michael Finegold (flute), David Russell (cello), and David Pihl (piano).

4) Psalm 66 (Be Joyful In God) (3:40) Carson P. Cooman

Psalm 66 (Be Joyful in God) (2005) for chorus and organ is dedicated to Holland J. Jancaitis and the choir of Battell Chapel, Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut. The work is a joyous setting of verses from Psalm 66 (1-2a, 3-4, 7-8, 18a) in the 1979 Book of Common Prayer translation. This recording was performed by the Harvard University Choir with Edward Elwyn Jones, director. For more information visit www.carsoncooman.com.

5) James Thresher Industries, Est. 2007 (1:49) Dreadnaught

Originally released on **Dreadnaught's** award-winning 2001 album THE AMERICAN STANDARD as a piece for electric guitar, electric bass, trap drums, and kazoo, this was a live staple from the band's primary touring period of '99 to '04. Generally performed as an introduction to its companion piece, "Welding," it also appeared in live form on Dreadnaught's double-disc 2005 release LIVE AT MOJO from the Italian label Comet Records. This version was recorded and performed by the Moravian Philharmonic and conductor Vit Micka in September 2007 in Olomouc, Czech Republic. For more information visit www.dreadnaughtrock.com.

6) Hungarian Dance #1 in G Minor (6:09) Richard Drexler

Originally released on the SENOR JUAN BRAHMS album (2003); the soloists here are, in order, Bob Mintzer, Drexler, Jeff Berlin and Mike Scaglione. "Pianist/bassist/vocalist **Richard Drexler** has crafted an eclectic recording, full of fire and humor, saluting the music of Johannes Brahms reinvented through Latin American rhythms. Along the way he also tips his hat to American popular music. The imaginative Drexler uses the vallenato and cumbia (Columbia), tango (Argentina), bolero (Cuba), merengue, pasajes and gaitas (Venezuela), festejo and lando (Peru), samba and bossa (Brazil), and candombe (Uruguay) to blur the distinctions seemingly separating classical, jazz, and Latin American music" (From AllAboutJazz.com). For more info visit www.richarddrexler.com.

7) Povas Plori Mi Ne Plu (4:46) David Gaines

David Gaines' Povas Plori Mi Ne Plu ("I Can Cry No Longer") for unaccompanied SATB choir was composed in 1994. The text is in the international language Esperanto and, according to the composer, "reflects my reaction to media images of the horrible war in Bosnia and to the effect on civilian populations of war generally." This performance was recorded live by the Master Singers Of Virginia at Our Savior's Way Lutheran Church, Ashburn, Virginia, on April 27th, 2003. In that concert's program, artistic director Erik Reid Jones said: "*David's hauntingly lovely Povas Plori Mi Ne Plu will echo in your ears long after leaving the performance; we are privileged to give this work its American premiere.*" The world premiere of **Povas Plori Mi Ne Plu** was on June 14th, 1994 in Sofia, Bulgaria, by the Bulgarian Esperanto Choir, Katja Vučkova, director. It was the First Prize winner (the "An-Ok San" Prize) in the song division of the 1995 International Fine Arts Competition of the World Esperanto Association in Tampere, Finland. for the Esperanto text and an English translation, go to www.davidgaines.org.

8) Module No. 5 (5:05) Tobias Giesen

Performed and recorded live by Claudia Hübl. **Tobias Giesen's** chamber ensemble piece "Goodbye Paul Celan" (recorded by the Slovak Radio Chamber Players w/Kirk Trevor, conductor) will be released by MMC in 2008. For more information visit www.tobiasgiesen.de.

9) Hot Wings of Song, (or Finger Food) (6:50) A. Paul Johnson

From A. Paul Johnson's XTREME CLASSICAL IV and featuring Angela Tosheva, piano soloist with the Orange Factory. Composer, conductor, writer and director **A. Paul Johnson** has appeared as a guest artist for regional theatres and music organizations throughout the United States. Ensembles that have performed his works include Argentina's Ensamble Rosario, Gainesville Chamber Orchestra, Indianapolis Philharmonic, Carmel Symphony Orchestra, Warsaw National Philharmonic, Prague Symphony Orchestra and the Sofia Philharmonic. As producing/artistic director of the Apollo Project, Mr. Johnson has taken the company through unprecedented growth with hundreds of concerts, publications, recordings and theatre presentations. His creative work has been recognized by fellowships from the National Endowment for the Arts, the National Institute for Music Theatre at the Kennedy Center and two Individual Artist Fellowships from the Florida Arts Council. For more information visit www.apolloproject.net.

10) **Elec-trick 1 – Celestial Frost** (9:03) **Russ Lombardi**

Russ Lombardi, Professor of Music at the University of Maine at Augusta, earned his Bachelor of Music degree from Berklee College of Music and his Master of Music degree from New England Conservatory. Two of his classical chamber works were premiered at Carnegie Hall in 1996 and two flute compositions, soon to be released by MMC, were performed across the country including at national flute conventions in Phoenix (1998) and Atlanta (1999); he was awarded a 2007 Trustee Professor Grant from the University of Maine at Augusta to record a new symphonic work in the Czech Republic in 2008. **Elec-trick 1 – Celestial Frost**, is the first in a series of four pieces reflecting on aspects of water in different environments. Frost was inspired from a time-lapse documentary film of microscopic ice crystals forming into infinite patterns. This, combined with observations of ice patterns in the Maine woods and ponds, forms the mesmerizing composition imagining the sounds produced by these crystalline structures. Frost further imagines the sounds of frost crystals in the cold extra-terrestrial cosmos, with only hints of distant gravities. For more info visit www.uma.edu/rlobardi.html.

11) **Quintet for Piano and Winds (Ghosts), Mvmt. 3: They Dance** (3:50) **Edward Marcus**

Edward Marcus recently moved to St. Paul, Minnesota from the Boston area. While in Massachusetts, Mr. Marcus was the founder and music director of the Concord Ensemble, rehearsal assistant for Symphony Pro Musica, and music director for the Weston Drama Workshop at Regis College. Mr. Marcus's original works and transcriptions have been performed at conservatories, high schools, and music camps, and by independent professional and amateur organizations. Mr. Marcus has a Master of Music degree in Conducting, and a Bachelor of Music degree in Clarinet Performance, both from the New England Conservatory of Music in Boston. For more info visit www.edmarcusmusic.com.

12) **Hayley's Aria** (3:20) **Carl Vollrath**

Over the course of his 40+ year career, composer and educator **Carl Vollrath** has earned a reputation for crafting works of the highest quality for an incredibly wide array of instruments and ensemble types. In each and every work the listener can immediately hear his unique musical voice with its engaging rhythms, as snappy in some pieces as they are languid in others; colorful and expressive harmonies and melodies; and a sheer joie de vivre that is completely infectious. **Hayley's Aria** is an excellent example of Vollrath's small ensemble writing; the recording features Hayley Canterbury (bassoon) and John Jinright (piano) and was recorded on December 26, 2007.

13) **Jerusalem, Open Your Gates, Mvmt. 3: Open Your Gates And Receive God's Glory** (6:42) **Meira Warshauer**

Open Your Gates and Receive God's Glory is the last movement of a three movement symphonic work, **Jerusalem, Open Your Gates**. According to Jewish mystical tradition, Jerusalem is the "heart" of the world, the point where heaven and earth kiss. Revered by the three Abrahamic traditions as a holy city, Jerusalem embodies the hope for harmony and peace. "In this movement, melodies representing Judaism, Christianity, and Islam intermingle, as giant gates open to receive God's glory into our hearts and into the world," writes composer **Meira Warshauer**. Premiered by Donald Portnoy and the Hillel Festival Orchestra at the University of South Carolina in 1998, and performed here by the University of South Carolina Symphony, Neal Casey conducting. Meira Warshauer has devoted much of her creative output to Jewish themes and their universal message. Albany Records released her CD STREAMS IN THE DESERT, music for orchestra and chorus inspired by the Torah, in 2007. Her work also reflects a love and respect for the earth. A profile of her "Symphony No. 1: Living, Breathing Earth" was featured on the PRI radio show "Living on Earth" in spring 2007. For more information visit www.meirawarshauer.com.