

Ken Davies
Alpine Pastorale
for unaccompanied bass trombone



KD 123
kenvad music
www.kendavies.net

Program Notes

I first met Jonathan Warburton at the 2009 Eastern Trombone Workshop where he was performing and I was having a work performed. He honored me by asking me to write a work for him. As I listened to him play, his marvelous tone and fluid technique brought to mind an image of a shepherd casually improvising free form tunes on a wooden flute while passing the time as the sheep grazed. This led to another image of a Swiss alpine horn, low and rich, its deep tone warming a mountainside. That morphed into my final vision. I just needed to add the notes.

Night falls on the mountainside. Alpine sheep graze contentedly.
The shepherd's soft bass trombone tones waft across the valley.

Composer Bio

A Wisconsin native, Ken Davies holds an M.A. in trombone from Middle Tennessee State University at Murfreesboro and an M.M. in composition from the University of Colorado at Boulder where he was an Effinger Fellowship composition student. During the 1970s, he was trombonist with Gabriel's Brass, a 12-piece jazz-rock show band based in Orlando, Florida, often appearing at Walt Disney World. He has worked as a commercial arranger and session producer for nationally broadcast record and television projects. Since 2002, he has resided in south Mississippi where he teaches brass, composes, and runs his publishing company, Kenvad Music. His works include acoustic and electronic pieces that have been performed nationally at Society of Composers national and regional conferences, Southeastern Composers League, the International Trombone Festival, and several concerts. His electronic ambient CD, *Floating Galaxy*, is available at CD Baby and iTunes. Mp3s of his works may be heard via his website www.kendavies.net. Honors include ASCAP awards and grants from National Endowment for the Arts and Mississippi Arts Commission, including the 2006-2007 Mississippi Performing Artist Fellowship in Composition, and is listed on Southern Arts Federation's SouthernArtistry.org artist registry. His *Three Pieces* for bass trombone and piano was the winner of the U.S. Army Band's 2009 Eastern Trombone Workshop National Trombone Composition Competition.

for Jonathan Warburton

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Performance Note

Night falls on the mountainside.
Alpine sheep graze contentedly.

The shepherd's soft bass trombone tones
waft across the valley.

Duration 2:50

Soft and pretty ♩ = 69

KEN DAVIES

mp

p

rubato feel, like a shepherd improvising fluid lines on a wooden flute

mp

more strict tempo

mf

mp

p

mp

mf

incomplete excerpt

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KD 123

Published by **kenvad music** (ASCAP) - Gautier, Mississippi, USA

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