

*ken davies*

# *Euphonic Soundscape*

*for euphonium and fixed audio (CD)*



**KD 140**

**kenvad music**

[www.kendavies.net](http://www.kendavies.net)

U.S.A.

## **Program Notes**

"Let the euphonium soar over lush and beautiful sounds" was how I interpreted what I heard as Cody Ford described to me what he would like to hear in a composition for his euphonium and electronic music soundscape. So, with a rich palette of sounds from which to choose and no need to consider the techniques of conventional instruments these virtual instrument timbres might marginally resemble, I set about fashioning harp-like glissandos, random and synthetic scale runs in multiple tuplets, multi-voiced pointillistic filigrees and cascading arpeggiations. Sweeping chords harmonically planed along with a few instances of static background atmospheres delivered through MachFive3 software. The result is a delicious recipe, taste-tweaked and carefully baked over which Mr. Ford's artistry floats a fantastic

## **Performer's Tech Notes**

In place of rehearsal numbers or letters, there are boxed timings set to places in the CD track. Performers may want to choose the option of including an overhead mic, not so much for volume but to help blend the euphonium's timbre with that of the sound system.

## **About the Composer**

Wisconsin native Ken Davies holds an M.M. in composition from the University of Colorado at Boulder and an M.A. in trombone from Middle Tennessee State University at Murfreesboro. 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. In 2002, he has resided in south Mississippi where he teaches brass, and manages his publishing company, Kenvad Music (see at [www.kendavies.net](http://www.kendavies.net)). His works include acoustic and electronic pieces that have been performed internationally at conferences and festivals by Society of Composers, Southeastern Composers League, Electronic Music Midwest, Electroacoustic Barn Dance, Christian Fellowship of Art Music Composers, International Trombone Festival, National Association of Composers USA, Parma Music Festival, London New Wind Festival (UK), Sonic Coast (UK), and concerts. Honors include annual ASCAP awards, the Mississippi Performing Artist Fellowship in Composition for 2006-2007 and 2012-2013, grants from Mississippi Arts Commission and a listing on the Mississippi Artist Roster. His Three Pieces for bass trombone and piano won the 2009 Eastern Trombone Workshop National Composition Competition. He was the 2013 Mississippi Music Teachers' Association commissioned composer. He has collaborated with his poet wife Judy to create a CD of poetic soundscapes featuring narrated poetry and electronic soundscapes. Their studio cats Little Fluff and Darius Meow supervise each piece of new music.

Score

Performance time 7:52

Commissioned by Cody Ford  
**Euphonic Soundscape**  
 for euphonium and fixed audio

Adagio ♩ = 60

KEN DAVIES

Euphonium

Audio Reduction

metal crash

4

7

0:28

flexible rubato\* through end of m. 11

*f*

\* flexible rubato - cadenza-like within the time frame allowed but following beats exactly does not matter.

9

*accel.*

12

5

*mf*

14 0:53

17

20 1:17

22

25

1:41

27

3 30 1:57 3

*mp*

This system contains measures 30 and 31. The music is written in a bass clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). It features a melodic line with eighth and sixteenth notes, some beamed together. A dynamic marking of *mp* is present. A time signature change to 2/4 is indicated at the end of measure 31.

32 Slightly faster ♩. = 60

*cymbal* *bells as is*  
*bass* *bass*

This system contains measures 32 and 33. Measure 32 continues the melodic line. Measure 33 features a change in instrumentation with a *cymbal* and *bells as is* entry, and a *bass* line. A tempo marking "Slightly faster" with a quarter note equal to 60 is shown. A dynamic marking of *mf* is present.

35 2:17

*mf*  
horns

*15<sup>mb</sup>*

This system contains measures 35 and 36. Measure 35 features a melodic line with a dynamic marking of *mf* and the instruction "horns". Measure 36 continues the melodic line with a dynamic marking of *15<sup>mb</sup>*.

39

This system contains measures 39, 40, 41, and 42. The music continues with a melodic line in the bass clef, featuring eighth and sixteenth notes.

43

This system contains measures 43, 44, and 45. Measure 43 has a triplet of eighth notes. Measure 44 has a triplet of eighth notes and a 7-measure rest. Measure 45 has a 7-measure rest.

46 2:41

*f*

This system contains measures 46, 47, and 48. Measure 46 has a triplet of eighth notes. Measure 47 has a triplet of eighth notes. Measure 48 has an 8-measure rest. A dynamic marking of *f* is present.

## **BRASS WORKS by KEN DAVIES**

from **kenvad music**

[www.kendavies.net](http://www.kendavies.net) / **kenvad**

### **TRUMPET**

City of God - tot & organ  
Antiphonal Music - 2 tpts  
Brush Strokes - tots 4 parts  
Around 3 AM - tpt, pno, alto sax, cl  
Cityscapes - tpt, fl, pno, vln, vc

### **HORN**

Brain Fantasies - hn & fixed audio  
Sensuous Images - hn & fixed audio  
Waterscape - hn & fixed audio

### **TROMBONE - BASS TROMBONE**

Soliloquy 2 - tbn alone  
Soliloquy 1 - tbn alone  
Nocturnes - tbn alone  
Sensuous Images - tbn & fixed audio  
Notasonata - tbn & fixed audio  
20 Pieces in Changing Meters - tbn alone  
Read Tenor Clef Now  
Read Alto Clef Now  
Alpine Pastoral - b. tbn alone  
Three Pieces - b. tbn & piano  
Crossroads - 2 tbns & piano  
Milton's Trombones - tbn quartet  
Quatandre - tbn quartet  
Divertimento for Five - 5 tbns  
Wisconsin Uprising - 7 tbns

### **EUPHONIUM - TUBA**

Euphonic Soundscape - euph & fixed audio  
Escape from the Matrix - euph & piano  
Amazing Grace - tuba & piano  
Excursions - tuba & piano  
Compare and Contrast - euph & tuba

### **BRASS ENSEMBLES**

Colloquium - trb & tuba  
Collage 2013 - tpt, tbn, piano  
Three Roads Diverged - tot, hn, tbn  
Amplitudes - 2 tpts, tbn, b. tbn  
Concert Piece - brass quintet & organ