

Ken Davies

VEILED PLACES

for Woodwind Quintet

1. Empyrean Escarpments
2. Anasazi Apparitions
3. Land of Cragged Spires

KD 202

Kenvad Music
www.kendavies.net

Program Notes: Veiled Places

There are places in the North American southwest that inspire the imagination and exude a sense of geological, historical mystery. One feels as though one is looking through an atmospheric veil at how life might have been in an ancient era. In this work, I attempted to capture a feel of three of those places.

In northern Arizona's Monument Valley, the desert floor is sparsely decorated with towering rock outcroppings, very striking from a distance. Yet, close up, they are huge sculptures, their empyrean escarpments touching the sky. Through the high altitude thin air, the sun distinctly marks the shadows and abstract angular lines of the cliff's rough edges. One faintly sees large ancient hands, casting shadows, carving the details.

The ancient cliff-dwelling civilization at Colorado's Mesa Verde left little history except the remains of what was once a long and broad avenue of early American "hi-rise apartment complexes." One can tour the many remains of social gathering places and examine, close-up, a few examples of multi-room homes built in stone under shady rock ledges. For a brief moment, during my visit, I saw apparitions of one of these ancient Anasazi families going about their daily lives.

South Utah's Bryce Canyon is a land of cragged spires and huge densely-clustered giant hoodoos, rising from the canyon floor like a colossal army of ancient warriors standing guard in the valley. To the early Paiute Native Americans, these were the "Legendary People" whom Coyote turned into stone for their misdeeds, coating them in shades of red, frosty pink and orange, golden yellow and tan. At the right time of the right day as a breeze ripples the sunlight, you might see the sparkling colors come to life in silent speech.

About the composer

Ken Davies (b. 1944) received his Master of Music in composition from the University of Colorado at Boulder where he was a recipient of the prestigious Cecil Effinger Composition Fellowship. His works include pieces for brass, woodwinds, voice, organ and piano. He has worked as a commercial arranger and session producer for nationally broadcast recording and television projects. He is also active as a trombonist and private brass teacher. His works have been performed at such venues as Society of Composers national conference, Southeastern Composers League and International Trombone Festival (2005 New Orleans). Along with several ASCAP PLUS awards, he was the winner of the 2006-2007 Mississippi Artist Fellowship Grant in Composition from the Mississippi Arts Commission.

Score is transposed
Performance Time - c.11:00

Veiled Places

for Woodwind Quintet

1. Empyrean Escarpments

KEN DAVIES

1 **Andante** ♩ = 76

Musical score for the first system (measures 1-5) of 'Empyrean Escarpments'. The score is for a woodwind quintet and is transposed. It features five staves: Flute in C, Oboe, Clarinet in Bb (transposed), Horn in F (transposed), and Bassoon. The tempo is marked 'Andante' with a metronome marking of ♩ = 76. The key signature has one flat (Bb). The time signature changes from 2/4 to 3/4, then 4/4, 3/4, 2/4, and finally 4/4. Dynamics include *mf* and *f*. A sixteenth-note triplet is indicated with a '6' over the notes in measure 2.

6

Musical score for the second system (measures 6-10) of 'Empyrean Escarpments'. The score continues with the same five instruments: Flute (Fl.), Oboe (Ob.), Clarinet (Cl.), Horn (Hn.), and Bassoon (Bn.). The tempo remains 'Andante'. The time signature changes from 4/4 to 3/4, then 4/4, 3/4, 2/4, and finally 4/4. Dynamics include *mp*, *f*, *mf*, *mp*, and *p*. A sixteenth-note triplet is indicated with a '6' over the notes in measure 10.

10

Fl. *mp*

Ob. *mp*

Cl. *p* *mp*

Hn. *mp* *mf*

Bn. *mp*

15

Fl. *mf*

Ob. *mf*

Cl. *mf*

Hn. *p*

Bn. *mf*

20

Fl. *f*

Ob. *f* *mf*

Cl. *f* *mf*

Hn. *f*

Bn. *f*

2. Anasazi Apparitions

Adagio $\text{♩} = 63$

1

Fl. *p* 6 *cresc.*

Ob.

Cl.

Hn.

Bn.

6

Fl. *mp* *dim.* *p*

Ob.

Cl.

Hn.

Bn.

11

Fl. *p* 6

Ob. *p* 6

Cl. *p* 6

Hn. *p*

Bn. *p*

50

Fl. ————

Ob. *pp*

Cl. ————

Hn. ————

Bn. *pp*

3:30

3. Land of Cragged Spires

Moderato ♩.104

1

Fl. *f* *ff*

Ob. *f* *ff* *f* *f*

Cl. *f* *ff* *f* *f*

Hn. *ff* *f* *ff* *mf*

Bn. *f* *ff* *f* *f* *mf*

6

Fl. *f*

Ob. *f*

Cl. *f*

Hn. *f*

Bn. *f*

10

Fl.
Ob.
Cl.
Hn.
Bn.

13

Fl.
Ob.
Cl.
Hn.
Bn.

16

Fl.
Ob.
Cl.
Hn.
Bn.