HOUSE OF SKY

Henry Wolking (ASCAP)

Duration: 17 Minutes

Instrumentation: Flute/Piccolo
   Bb Clarinet/Bass Cl.
   Violin
   Viola
   Cello
   Piano/D X 7

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HOUSE OF SKY
by Henry Wolking

As a western composer, my influences are much less the academic schools of the East
than the landscapes of the Colorado Plateau, the Great Basin and the Continental Divide.
This is a land where simplicity belies profundity, where appearances are what they
are, and independence of thought, a natural phenomenon.

The title, House of Sky, is derived from the book THIS HOUSE OF SKY by Ivan Doig.
House of Sky reflects an attempt for me to tap the resources of intuition and those
"perceptors" hidden deep in the psyche that give glimpses of truth and meaning. I
have generally tried to avoid formulae or pre-conceived form. Like all tribal bands, the
music spreads in large circular patterns with no particular section claiming
importance over another.

Episodes are based on rhythmic estimations and several cantus firmi that, like rivers,
meander and occasionally intersect. A waterfall is stationary but the motion within it
is constant and turbulent, so this movement. Its form is static but it is highly
identifiable by the constant rhythmic activity and color transformations.

The second movement is dramatic in character and borrows material introduced in the
Adagio of my flute concerto composed in 1982. There is an intuitive connection
between the new material (of the Episodes) and this material, indicating that, to the
intuition, four years could just as easily be four seconds. The movement is highly
melodic.

The third movement is a continuation of the first, having been “interrupted” by the
slow second movement and needs no further explanation.

HENRY WOLKING

Henry Wolking is an associate professor of music and chairman of the jazz studies area
at the University of Utah. He is an active performer and composer. His compositions
are performed frequently throughout the U.S. and Europe. He has over 50 published
compositions for big band, combo and chamber music, bringing continuous ASCAP
awards since 1981.

IVAN D016

"This house of sky" is perhaps
the most moving book I ever encountered. This piece
was partially composed at sixteen mile Creek with
you book as its direct inspiration. Thank you.

Henry Wolking
House of Sky

Episodes (5'40")

Flute, Piccolo
Bb Clar., Bb Bass Clar.
Violin
Viola
Cello
Piano
Sounding
DX-7
Played

DX-7 Notes
All of the presets have been edited by the composer.
For a computer analysis or a copy of the RAM cartridge
contact me directly: Henry Wolking
3091 Graco Str.
Salt Lake City UT 84106
801-486-8334

Dept. of Music
Univ. of Utah
S. LC. UT 84112
801-531-7366
OY - "" - 6763

Sounding pitches & patterns
Fl./Picc.
Ci./B.Cl.
Vln
Vla
Cello
Pno

Down is Tacet for the Adagio movt.