

Concerto for Violin and Clarinet with Orchestra (2007)

Stephen Chatman

- I. *The shapes arise!*
- II. *Sound your voice!*
- III. *With love, with love*
- IV. *Joy! joy! all over joy!*

“Concerto for Violin and Clarinet with Orchestra was commissioned for Elsa Ludewig-Verdehr and Walter Verdehr by Michigan State University and the Las Cruces (New Mexico) Symphony, Dr. Lonnie Klein, conductor. It was composed in 2007 in honor of Dr. Ludewig-Verdehr’s induction as an Honorary Member of the International Clarinet Association for her lifetime contributions. The four-movement work was inspired by various Walt Whitman poems, from which lines are extracted as titles of movements. Given both the special occasion and the extraordinary talents of the Verdehr Duo, I attempted to compose an exuberant work—a unified intense expression within each of the stylistically contrasting movements. The recording of this concerto on Crystal Records is a live performance from February 16, 2008, in Las Cruces, New Mexico.”

—Stephen Chatman

The world premiere of *Concerto for Violin and Clarinet with Orchestra* was on July 6, 2007 at the International Clarinet Association Meeting in Vancouver, Canada.

Stephen Chatman (born 1950, Faribault, Minnesota) studied with Joseph Wood and Walter Aschaffenburg at the Oberlin Conservatory and with Ross Lee Finney, Leslie Bassett, William Bolcom, and Eugene Kurtz at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor. He completed his Doctor of Musical Arts degree in 1977.

Chatman is recognized internationally as a composer of choral, orchestral, and piano music. His approximately one hundred choral works have sold more than 500,000 printed copies and are widely performed. His orchestral music has been performed and recorded by the BBC Symphony; CBC Radio Orchestra; Berlin Radio Orchestra; the Hong Kong Philharmonic; the Niagara, Sydney, Seoul, San Francisco, St. Louis, Detroit, Dallas, and New World symphonies as well as by every major Canadian orchestra. Chatman has written numerous volumes of elementary through intermediate level piano music for the Stephen Chatman Library series. His choral and piano works are published by Highgate Press, Boosey & Hawkes, Oxford University Press, earthsongs, E.B. Marks, Mayfair, Frederik Harris, and Alfred; his orchestral works are published by E.C. Schirmer and Theodore Presser. Recordings are available on several labels including Centrediscs, Naxos, Crystal, Atma, Globe, and Skylark.

A JUNO nominee several times, Chatman has received many composition awards, including a Fulbright Grant, Rockefeller Grant, Charles Ives Scholarship, Western Canadian Music Award for Outstanding Classical Composition in 2005, 2006 and 2010, Jan V. Matejcek New Classical Music Award, three BMI Awards, and the Dorothy Somerset Award. He was the first Canadian ever short-listed in the BBC Masterprize International Competition. In 2012, he was appointed a Member of the Order of Canada.

Chatman is Professor of Composition and Orchestration at the University of British Columbia in Vancouver where he also serves as Head of the School of Music Composition Division and is Co-director of the Contemporary Players new music ensemble. He is an Associate Composer of the Canadian Music Centre and a past President of Vancouver New Music.

Additional information and a repertoire list are available at www.drstephenchatman.com.