

21st CENTURY SAXOPHONE SERIES

SUMMER TRIANGLE

Yukiko Nishimura

for Alto Saxophone and Piano

PIANO

Commissioned and Premiered by Masato Kumoi

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PROGRAM NOTE

Well-known Japanese saxophonist, Masato Kumoi, commissioned this work after hearing composer Yukiko Nishimura's popular band work, *Star Ship*. His request was for a new solo alto saxophone and band piece that included the same main theme. The composer drew inspiration for *Summer Triangle* from familiar astronomical geometry; "an imaginary triangle drawn on the northern hemisphere's celestial sphere, with its defining vertices at Altair, Deneb and Vega, the brightest stars in the three constellations of Aquila, Cygnus and Lyra, respectively." The movement titles represent each of these stars: 1. *Aquila*, 2. *Lyra (Star Ship)* and 3. *Cygnus*.

PERFORMANCE NOTES

Movement 1 : Keep the tension of all melody lines by connecting long and short notes.

Movement 2 : Enjoy the conversation between the saxophone solo and band.

Movement 3 : Even when the melody is lively, make sure to keep a relaxed feeling. Enjoy the sweet and smooth atmosphere from "Q" to "S."



ABOUT THE COMPOSER

Composer and pianist, **Yukiko Nishimura**, grew up in Japan. Ms. Nishimura graduated from Tokyo National University of Arts in 1990, where she studied with Atsutada Otaka. In 1991, she moved to Florida to study with Dr. Alfred Reed at the University of Miami and in 1993, she continued her studies with Dr. Richard Danielpour at Manhattan School of Music. Other notable teachers include Ivan Davis, Dr. Sara Davis Buechner and Giampaolo Bracali.

As a composer, Ms. Nishimura has received numerous commissions and has written for many solo instruments, chamber groups, wind ensemble, strings, and full orchestra. She has composed the scores to several notable silent films in America and Japan, such as Edison's **1910 Frankenstein**, and **The Water Magician**, directed by Kenji Mizoguchi, as well as collaborated with Noh Play, Japanese traditional theaters. Among her honors are the special mention at the 15th and 26th International Competition for Original Compositions for Band in Corciano, Italy, and the 6th Aoyama Award.

Ms. Nishimura is an active pianist that has given many solo concerts around the world, from Japan to the New York Public Library.

Summer Triangle

for alto saxophone and piano

I. Aguila

Yukiko Nishimura

Andante ♩ = 63

freely

Alto Saxophone

Piano

ppp *mp* 6 7

4 *in tempo*

mp *p* *mp* 5 6

7 6 3

10

mf *mp*

6 6

5

p

13

14

mf

6 3

mf

16

10

mp

p