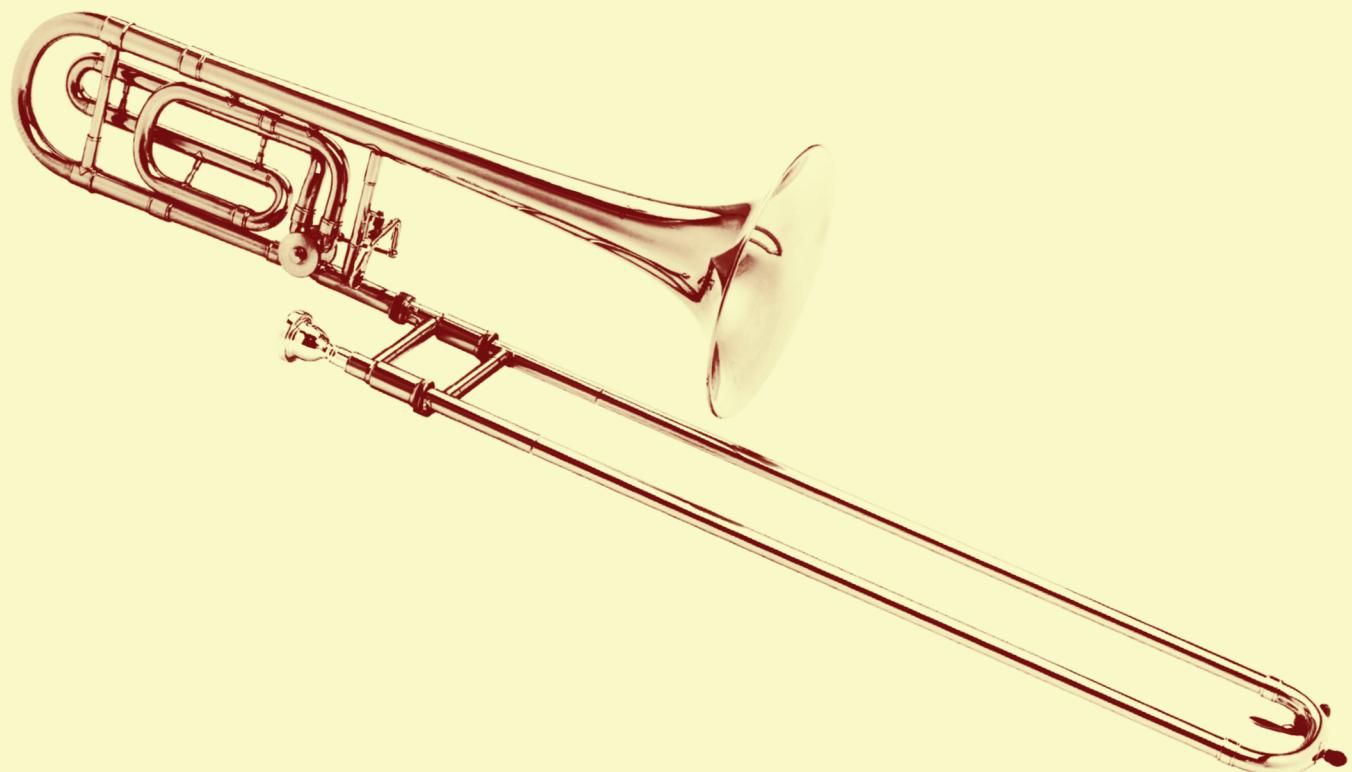


# Eric Ewazen

## Ballade

for Bass or Tenor Trombone and Piano



*Southern*<sup>®</sup>  
MUSIC

# BALLADE

for Bass Trombone (or Tenor Trombone),  
Harp and String Orchestra

By  
Eric Ewazen

edition for Bass Trombone (or Tenor Trombone)  
and Piano by the composer

## About the Work

Eric Ewazen's *Ballade* for Bass Trombone (or Tenor Trombone), Harp and String Orchestra began life as a piece for clarinet, and was composed in 1986 for the composer's friend Jean Kopperud, who presented the piece in Merkin Hall in New York City. It was written while Ewazen was guest composer at the Tidewater Music Festival in Southern Maryland. The composer has written:

"Outside of my guest cottage was the beautiful Chesapeake Bay. In the balmy summer weather, with the water gently lapping the shore, I wanted to describe this unbelievably peaceful pastorale scene with music. This was the birth of the *Ballade*. The clarinet sings, floats and soars above gently pulsating harp and string chords. At times the music becomes joyful and energetic, at times soft and prayerful."

In 1996, at the request of Charles Vernon, the composer adapted the work for performance by Bass or Tenor Trombone, and Mr. Vernon premiered the work in this form on May 31, 1997 at the International Trombone Association at the University of Illinois. About the event, the composer has written:

"I well knew of Mr. Vernon's reputation as one of the genuinely great orchestral and solo bass trombonists of our time. At that convention I had the pleasure of accompanying him on a program that included such diverse pieces as Mahler's *Kindertotenlieder* and John Williams' *Concerto*. My *Ballade* showcased Charlie's wonderful ability to float long, lyric lines and to dazzle the listener with his energetic vitality and golden tone. In an ABABA form, these two polar extremes are highlighted. The piece seems to rise out of a mist . . . sing, dance and play . . . and quietly, peacefully disappear again into the mist."

*Ballade* for Bass Trombone, Harp and String Orchestra has been recorded by Bass Trombonist Charles Vernon and the Czech Philharmonic Chamber Orchestra, conducted by Paul Polivnick on a compact disc entitled BASS HITS - Orchestral Music and Concertos by Eric Ewazen on the Albany Records label, catalog Troy 479.

## About the Composer

Eric Ewazen was born in 1954 in Cleveland, Ohio. He studied composition with Samuel Adler, Milton Babbitt, Warren Benson, Gunther Schuller, and Joseph Schwantner at the Eastman School of Music, Tanglewood and The Juilliard School, where he received his DMA. He has been a member of the faculty at Juilliard since 1980, composer-in-residence with the St. Luke's Chamber Ensemble of New York City, lecturer for the New York Philharmonic's Musical Encounter Series and vice-president of the League of Composers-ISCM.

A recipient of numerous composition awards and prizes, his works have been commissioned and performed by many chamber ensembles and orchestras around the world. Soloists in performance of his music include members of the New York Philharmonic, the Philadelphia Orchestra, the Boston Symphony, the Cleveland Orchestra, the Chicago Symphony, the Metropolitan Opera Orchestra, and the Vienna Philharmonic. His music has been heard at festivals such as Woodstock, Tanglewood, Aspen, Caramoor, and the Music Academy of the West.

His chamber music and his sonatas for wind and brass instruments have quickly become staples of the repertory. Southern Music Company has published a number of compositions by Dr. Ewazen, including his sonatas for trumpet, horn and trombone; the *Concerto for Tuba (or Bass Trombone)*; *Concerto for Trumpet and Strings*; *Roaring Fork Quintet* (woodwind quintet); *Ballade for Trombone (or Bass Trombone) and Piano*; *Ballade, Pastorale and Dance* for Flute, Horn and Piano; *Down a River of Time*, a concerto for oboe; and *Trio for Trumpet, Violin and Piano*.

Well-Tempered Productions has released two all-Ewazen compact discs, featuring, among other ensembles and soloists, the American Brass Quintet and the St. Luke's Chamber Ensemble. In addition, Albany Records has also released two all-Ewazen compact discs: "Bass Hits" which includes a variety of compositions featuring the Bass Trombone played by some of the most renowned performers on that instrument, and "Orchestra Music and Concertos". Among his recorded works are the *Symphony in Brass* (Summit Brass on Summit Records), *Colchester Fantasy* (American Brass Quintet on Summit Records, and the Center City Brass Quintet on d'Note Records), *Sonata for Trombone* (Joseph Alessi on Cala Records), *Trio for Trumpet, Violin and Piano* (Philip Smith on Cala Records), *The Diamond World* (the Ahn Trio on EMI Classics), *Ballad for Clarinet, Harp, and String Orchestra* (CRS Records), *The Tiger* (Robert White, tenor, on Hyperion), *Roaring Fork Quintet* (Borealis Wind Quintet on Helicon), *Ballade, Pastorale and Dance* (Margaret Swinchoski on Albany Records), *Dagon II* (David Taylor on New World Records), and *Shadowcatcher* (the American Brass Quintet accompanied by the Juilliard Wind Ensemble on New World Records).

for Charles Vernon

# BALLADE

SU450

for Bass Trombone (or Tenor Trombone), Harp and String Orchestra  
edition for Trombone and Piano by the composer

Eric Ewazen

**Andante**

**p**

**5**

**8**

**poco più mosso**

**13**

**14**

**pp**

**pp**

**8vb**

**8vb**

**8vb**

**8vb**

**p**

**mf**

**p**

**mf**

**p**

16

17

19

22

25

Violin 1

Violin 2

Cello

Bass

290

291

8vb

293 più mosso

optional 8va

298

302

cresc.

mf

8vb

(8va)

303

p

pp

for Charles Vernon  
**BALLADE**

Bass Trombone for Bass Trombone (or Tenor Trombone), Harp and String Orchestra  
edition for Bass Trombone and Piano by the composer

Eric Ewazen

**Andante**

SU450

8

10 2 14

16 17

20

25 28

30

35 38 6

39 6 6 3 6

42 6 ritard. f

