

## David Alan Earnest

### ARTIST STATEMENT

I was born in, and have lived most of my life in Idaho. Most of my works have been created and performed in Idaho. I've been trusted with many commissions, ranging from chamber music for the Langroise Trio, dance pieces for Idaho Dance Theater, orchestra and choir pieces for the Boise Philharmonic, and Caritas Chorale. I've even composed quite a lot of music that you've probably heard in local tv commercials and radio. I'm a creator and most likely will be until I'm dead.

Since, when very young, I first felt the vibrations in my chest of a blown clarinet, I've been doing music in one form or another. I've performed on bass clarinet in concert bands and wind ensembles, and played bass guitar in rock and country bands, and in the orchestra pit for local musicals. Music is a part of me and always will be. I try to stay busy, either in the studio or performance space.

Why do I compose? Who knows? A commission arises. A musical dream presents itself and formal problems need to be worked out. The facile sensation of sitting at a keyboard creates a conduit of thought. A performance looms. A deadline hovers. All of the above. Connecting with an audience is paramount.

So my statement would be: I sit down and I do the work. After all, inspiration only takes you so far. Stravinsky once said that coming up with ideas is not the problem. Its weeding out all the marginal ideas to find the useful ones. So I plow ahead, I weed, and I water.