

Christopher Dedrick Biography



Chris pursued studies in music at the State University of New York at Fredonia, and later at the Manhattan School of Music in New York City where he majored in trumpet and music theory. He studied extensively with Mel Broiles, the great NY trumpet player and teacher. Chris became the chief arranger for the Airmen of Note, Washington's Air Force Big Band during his military service during the Vietnam War. During this time he and his siblings formed a pop vocal group called The Free Design, which appeared on Johnny Carson, Mike Douglas and many other shows including Nixon's Inauguration Ball, going on to create 8 albums. He also contributed as writer, player and producer to recording sessions for many artists, including Peter, Paul and Mary, Melissa Manchester, Barry Mann, and Simon and Garfunkel with James Taylor. In 1972 Chris moved to Canada and began writing for film and television, writing the music for over 200 episodes, shows and films. He is the recipient of

4 Gemini Awards and 16 nominations, a Genie Award, 2 Golden Reel Awards, a Hot Docs Award and a Blizzard Award. He posthumously was awarded with the Caledon Walk of Fame in 2012 on the Trans Canada Trail.

Chris has written chamber, symphonic and choral works including "Entre Nous" commissioned and performed by the Canadian Brass and Principal Brass of the New York Philharmonic premiered at the Lincoln Center in NYC, "Awakenings", a double concerto for violin and viola with full orchestra, and "Joy Sounds" for the Elmer Iseler Singers. Other works have been performed by the Amadeus Choir, the Bach-Elgar Choir, the Bach Children's Chorus, The Chautauqua Children's Choir, and the Mormon Tabernacle Choir. He has written many pieces for the Star-Scape Singers including a 90 minute a cappella Mass called the Fire Mass which was performed at Carnegie Hall and Roy Thomson Hall as well as in Europe.

He has written many original pieces and arrangements for the Canadian Brass, the True North Brass and the Menlo Brass.