## **GREAT WATERS**

Composed by

**Dean Sorenson** 



JAZZ ENSEMBLE SIGNATURE SERIES

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## The Composer

**Dean Sorenson** (b. 1963) is a prolific and highly sought-after composer, educator, trombonist, and clinician. He holds degrees from the University of Minnesota and the Eastman School of Music, and spent two years touring the United States and Japan with the Glenn Miller Orchestra, playing trombone and writing arrangements for the band. Dean currently serves as Interim Director of Jazz Studies and Performance at the University of Minnesota-Minneapolis.

A Yamaha performing artist, Dean maintains an active freelance schedule, playing for touring shows and performing with a wide variety of professional and student ensembles. He is also busy as a clinician, appearing throughout North America to share his innovative approaches to teaching jazz.

Dean has many jazz ensemble publications to his credit, including the numerous contributions to the *Standard of Excellence Jazz In Concert* series and the *Kjos Jazz Ensemble Signature Series*. Most notably, he is co-author of the widely acclaimed *Standard of Excellence Jazz Ensemble Method*. Recent commissions have come from the Airmen of Note, Proteus 7, and the Penfield Music Commission Project.

## The Composition

**Great Waters** is a simple 16 bar theme that is treated in many different ways. In the opening, the theme is presented in a chorale format before being stated in its purest form by solo trumpet and alto sax over a piano and bass ostinato. After one more thematic statement that is presented using different harmonies, the band moves to a funk-shuffle groove that features the trumpets. Following the trumpet soli there is a section that is open for solos. The theme is stated in its entirety one more time as a shout chorus following the solos, and the piece ends using fragments of the theme over the same ostinato that was used in the beginning. The title, "Great Waters", refers to the Boundary Waters Canoe Area of northern Minnesota.



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