# SOARING 

## by <br> Dominic Dousa

## Complete Band Instrumentation

1 - Full Score
1 - Piccolo
3 - Flute 1
3 - Flute 2
1 - Oboe 1
1 - Oboe 2
3 - Clarinet in Bb 1
4 - Clarinet in Bb 2
4 - Clarinet in Bb 3
2 - Bass Clarinet in Bb
1 - Bassoon 1
1 - Bassoon 2

2 - Alto Saxophone 1 in Eb
2 - Alto Saxophone 2 in Eb
2 - Tenor Saxophone in Bb
1 - Baritone Saxophone in Eb
4 - Trumpet 1 in Bb
4 - Trumpet 2 in Bb
1 - Horn 1 in F
1 - Horn 2 in F
1 - Horn 3 in F
1 - Horn 4 in F
2 - Trombone 1
2 - Trombone 2

2 - Trombone 3
2 - Euphonium B.C.
2 - Euphonium T.C.
4 - Tuba
1 - Timpani
2 - Percussion 1
Suspended Cymbal, Crash
Cymbals
3 - Percussion 2
Tambourine, Snare Drum,
Triangle, Suspended
1 - Percussion 3
Bass Drum

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## About the Music - -

Soaring was composed in the summer of 2003, shortly after I completed doctoral studies at Ball State University in Muncie, Indiana. The idea for this piece came to me while traveling in northern Missouri, during a roundabout sightseeing trip from Indiana to my hometown of Rochester, Minnesota. Both the surroundings and the relaxed atmosphere of one of my favorite activities, taking an improvisatory road trip through rural landscapes, inspired the mood of the composition. The preliminary sketch for the piece was completed during subsequent travels throughout the Midwest that summer.

The composition is cast in a traditional scherzo-and-trio form, with a more relaxed middle section. While I did not attempt to programmatically depict nature scenes, my hope was to capture the mood of soaring in this music - of a soaring bird, of the soaring green vistas of Midwestern landscapes in June, of the soaring of one's spirit as one delights in the beauty of one's experience of these scenes and images.
Performance notes. The oboe solos beginning at mm. 48, 168, and 406 are cued in the Clarinet 1 part. If an oboe player is unavailable, these solos may be performed by a clarinet soloist. (A second solo clarinetist may perform the Oboe 2 part starting at m .168 if a second oboist is not available.) From mm. 173-201, the Horn $1 \& 2$ parts are cued in the Horn $3 \& 4$ parts. The Horn $3 \& 4$ parts may be added if their addition would result in better balance. The bassoon parts in mm . 259-267 and 348-355 are cued in other parts.

## About the Composer --



Dominic Dousa, a native of Rochester, Minnesota, joined the faculty of the University of Texas at El Paso Department of Music in August of 2004. There he has taught courses in $2^{\text {nd }}$ year theory and aural skills, seminars on specialized topics in theory, and all levels of composition.

He holds degrees in music from Ball State University (D.A.), Central Michigan University (M.M.), and Harvard University (A.B. summa cum laude) and in statistics from Iowa State University (M.S.). He also has studied composition in Prague. His primary composition teachers include Jody Nagel, David Gillingham, Craig Weston, and Milan Slavický.

Dousa's compositions have been performed at recitals, festivals, and conferences in the U.S., Canada, Mexico, Peru, China, the Czech Republic, and Finland. Two of his song cycles, With a Song in My Heart and Six Songs on the Poetry of Langston Hughes, have been recorded by baritone Gerald J. Blanchard (with Dousa at the piano) and released on the CD "With a Song in My Heart" by Blue Griffin Recording. This CD features art songs set to texts of African American poets. In 2005, Dousa became Composer-in-Residence for the El Paso Symphony Youth Orchestras.
In addition to his activities as teacher and composer, Dousa has remained active as an accompanist and chamber musician, and has given scholarly presentations on topics in music theory.





