



At once intensely personal and universal, the music of Michael Allen Harrison finds a place in our deepest emotions. He reflects somber moments with the gentle touch in his heartfelt piano melodies. His fiery concerto movements match charged moments with magnificent bravado. His strikingly diverse musical styles meet us at high and low touch points that extend far beyond the seven octaves on his grand piano.

Recognized as Steinway Signature Artist, Michael has built a reputation as a prolific and stylistically multifaceted pianist, playing classical, new age/world, and contemporary jazz. In a career that has spanned over two decades, he has expanded his talents as a producer, composer, and arranger.

Michael released his inaugural album in 1986. Since then, he has released more than 40 albums showcasing his vast variety of performing and composing styles. He launched his own record company, MAH Records, in 1984; it is now a well-known label for other popular Northwest artists. To date, Michael has produced music for more than 200 musicians.

His songs have touched the sky and circled the earth, as they have been played on the space shuttles Endeavor and Discovery. He and his beloved Steinway have performed for President Clinton, Vice President Al Gore, Quincy Jones, Walter Cronkite, Margaret Thatcher, Colin Powell and the Dalai Lama. Michael has also performed at the United Nations in New York City premiering his tribute song, Remembrance, for the 50th anniversary of Israel's independence in 1998. He also played at the World Peace Conference at The Hague, in the Netherlands in 1999.

Although he has performed around the world, he is best known and loved in his hometown of Portland, Oregon. There is a star set in stone named in his honor in front of the Portland Center for the Performing Arts in recognition of his significant contributions to the arts. His star is aligned with other supporters of the arts including former Mayor Vera Katz and former Oregon Symphony Conductor James Depriest. Michael's philanthropic efforts and outreach in the City of Roses have indeed made a lasting impact. In 1999, Michael founded The Snowman Foundation, a non-profit organization that donates pianos to schools with music programs lacking necessary funding. In addition, Michael has released more than 20 benefit albums to raise money for charities in his community.

Trained as a classical pianist, Michael believes classical music has the ability to tell a story like no other genre. He considers legendary composers Chopin, Grieg, Liszt, Schubert, Rachmaninoff and Tchaikovsky as well as modern composers like Andrew Lloyd Webber, Jon Williams, and George Gershwin master storytellers, and enjoys interpreting their timeless auditory tales with a classical contemporary sound. Michael



began performing with the Oregon Symphony in 1996 when he premiered a four-movement suite for piano and orchestra. He has appeared numerous times with the Portland Festival Symphony, performing with them his first concerto, “The Mount Hood Concerto.”

His music came to film in 1992, when he became nationally recognized for writing film scores for many motion pictures, short films and documentaries. He also served as the musical director for numerous ballet and theater companies including the Oregon Children’s Theater and the American Dance Theater. Most recently, he music directed “The Full Monty” and presented his own musical, Prometheus.

No matter what genre this extraordinary musician plays, his heartwarming melodies and passionate lyrics find heartstrings of everyone in his audiences. Whether he’s playing in front of a 2,000-seat audience or at one of his popular “Dinner with Michael” evenings (which take place in his very own living room), his magical sound gives listeners an unforgettable experience.