## GRAVITAS

## SOON HEE NEWBOLD




## THE COMPOSER

Soon Hee Newbold is an internationally acclaimed composer and conductor known for incorporating differing cultural and ethnic styles in her writing inspired by her experiences and travel. She started her musical journey at the age of 5 on piano and violin at age 7 and performed as a concert artist in professional ensembles around the world.

As a composer, Ms. Newbold's works are performed by groups ranging in all levels from professional symphonies to beginning elementary ensembles in venues such as Carnegie Hall, the Kennedy Center, Wolf Trap, Disney Hall, Lincoln Center, the Midwest Band and Orchestra Clinic, and many more worldwide stages.

Ms. Newbold is frequently sought after as a keynote speaker and guest clinician. She has conducted and worked with orchestras and bands throughout the U.S. and overseas such as The Netherlands, Belgium Australia, Indonesia, Singapore, and China. As a filmmaker and composer in Hollywood, her music can also be heard in film and other recording projects.

## ABOUT THE MUSIC

Award-winning educator, author, and pedagogue Dr. Robert Gillespie started the Columbus Symphony Chamber Strings in 1984. Gravitas is written in honor of their 40th anniversary. When we use gravitas to describe a person, it usually means they have much experience and expertise; someone of note with great respect. In theater, actors are often described as having (or not having) gravitas, which means they have the maturity and "weight" when playing a character. I thought it a fitting title to describe someone of Dr. Gillespie's caliber as well as the impact the Columbus Symphony Chamber Strings has made over the past 40 years. This version for full orchestra features the bass voices with a somber, serious tone in the beginning followed by a celebratory melodicline (featured in the horns) that continues throughout the piece. I used feelings of nostalgia, power, and accomplishment as inspiration for the work.

## PERFORMANCE NOTES

Running eighth notes and the ostinato in the strings and winds should be short and off the string if possible. The main melody line, in contrast, is legato with longer phrasing. If ensembles have the extra players, there can never be too many horns for this piece. There are a few spots that call for more than 4 players in the percussion section. If there aren't enough people to cover the parts, you can leave out some of the crash cymbals and hit the suspended cymbal instead. Exaggerate the crescendos and swells, especially in percussion. Feel free to experiment with different instruments in place of the toms (i.e. any type of cinematic sounding drum or snare drum with the snares off). If there are extra players, they can double the floor and low toms with other ethnic or different pitched toms as well.

## GRAVITAS

Powerful ( $(\mathrm{l}=168$ )



| 9 |
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VIn. 1

VIn. 2

Vla.

Vcl.
D.B.










Vln. 1
Vln. 2






Is.

Hns.
Timp.
MIt. Perc.
Perc. 1
Perc. 2

$\frac{8}{8}$
VIn. 1
VIn. 2
Vla.
Vcl.


Fls.
Ob.
-
CIs.

148
Hns.
Tpts. $\quad \begin{array}{r}1 \\ 2\end{array}$
Tbns. $\begin{array}{r}1 \\ 2\end{array}$

Timp.
$\underset{\text { (Bls., Ch.) }}{\text { Mlit. Perc. }}$
Perc. 1
Perc. 2

Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vcl.
D.B.


148


Vln. 1

VIn. 2
D.B.



Vln. 1

Vln. 2

2

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vcl.
D.B.




Tpts. 1 2
Tbns.

Tuba

 $\underset{\text { (Bls., Ch.) }}{\text { MII. Perc. }}$

Perc. 1

Perc. 2



VIn. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vcl.





