

TWO RIVERS

Commissioned by Mr. Thomas Kjelland and the Valley City High School Senior Band (Valley City, ND) and premiered in 2007 in New York, the title for this wind ensemble piece, *Two Rivers*, came from my thoughts/feelings about experiences in Valley City when I was younger and a high school student, and now, as a visiting alumnus.

I was different then. The high school was different then. In fact, everything was different then. (Not better or worse, just different.) Even though I have a lot of mixed feelings about my high school memories, I know that if I were somehow to live them over again, I'd still have another batch of just as mixed memories. It's not just "then and now" feelings and thoughts that came to mind when considering my experiences in North Dakota - it was the overwhelming feeling of how time isn't just a line, but a beautiful mosaic of experiences. -Some of which feel like yesterday and others like an eternity ago.

I couldn't write a fair retrospective of my experiences in N.D. as a composer because of the same sentiment shared by a quote by the Greek philosopher, Heraclitus;

"A Man Cannot Step into the Same River Twice."

**contact composer for purchasing information*