

OPUS FOUR



- 1. With Wonder (3:47)
- 2. Dad's Victory (4:06)
- 3. Waltz in F Minor (3:50)
- 4. Father of the Bride (4:04)
- 5. A Moment of Joy (1:57)
- 6. Winter Dreams (4:38)
- 7. Persian Rhapsody (7:57)

- 8. Two Hearts (4:51)
- 9 Finding Hope (3:54)
- 10. Adagio Sostenuto (5:53)
- 11. Seattle Nocturne (4:44)
- 12. Meditation: Skipping Stones (2:22)
- 13. Chasing Glory (4:52)

Total Runtime: 56:55

©Copyright 2013 Tim Neumark. All rights reserved. TimNeumark.com With **Opus Four**, a new chapter begins for me and my music. Years before I released my first CD, I had already planned the titles for my first three albums, had written nearly all the tracks for *Biography*, and had come up with titles for several tracks on *Influence*. Those albums reflected years of events and inspirations in my life.

For my fourth album, the door was wide open: where would I find inspiration? What should the title be? Ultimately, I decided to go without a formal title, and simply call the album *Opus Four*. The song titles are drawn from inspiration or the emotion evoked by the music itself.

With Wonder was meant to convey a sense of innocence and simplicity, representing the way a child looks at the world "with wonder." Later in 2012, this title came to reflect the way I look with wonder at my first child. The song Dad's Victory was written in anticipation of my father's final chemotherapy treatment, giving him victory over cancer. Waltz in F Minor is the first track I've released that is simply music for the sake of music; the inspiring event for this song was simply the music itself. The title Father of the Bride was given to this track because the song has a bittersweet type of sound, conjuring images of a proud father at his daughter's wedding. A Moment of Joy was titled for its inspiration; the simple melody arriving in a joyous moment. Winter Dreams is a melody that came to me in my sleep one day in February. Persian Rhapsody is named for its Middle Eastern sound and its free-flowing structure. The title, primary melody, and entire structure of Two Hearts came to me in a single moment: the first time I saw the ultrasound of my daughter's beating heart. Originally inspired by tragic world events, Finding Hope began as a sad song, but I found the melody to be uplifting; the title reflects the idea that hope persists even after a tragic event. My goal in composing Adagio Sostenuto was to keep the music very understated; its title is a tribute to the first movement of Beethoven's Moonlight Sonata. Seattle Nocturne is a variation on a single motif; the improvisation that originated the song was played at the Piano Haven Studio, which was then based in Seattle. Meditation: Skipping Stones continues my tradition of including a quiet meditation piece on each album. It is an echoey piece, meant to paint a picture of serenity on the shores of a calm lake. Though I watched very little of the 2012 Olympics, I wrote Chasing Glory to capture the feeling of the games and the joy and excitement of competition.

All music composed, arranged, and performed by Tim Neumark.

Mixed and mastered at Piano Haven Studio in Sedona, AZ. Engineered by Joe Bongiorno.

Design and photos by Monica Neumark.

Thanks to Monica for her continued love and support. Thanks to Joe Bongiorno for his techincal expertise, his incredible ear, and for finding a great sound for this album.

Thank you especially to all my friends and fans who continue to support my music. Nothing makes me happier than to be able to share my music with you.

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