

COMPOSER'S NOTES:

Metropolis Overture

“*Metropolis Overture*” was commissioned and premiered by the Mississauga Symphony Orchestra. The work was written as a tribute to the city of Mississauga.

I was born and raised in Mississauga, and lived there for 24 years. Therefore, I was thrilled when I was asked to compose an orchestral overture celebrating the city's 40th anniversary. I have set to music my recollections of the old and new city of Mississauga.

The opening of the piece starts softly. The music slowly builds towards a majestic climax featuring the full orchestra. The opening idea reflects the vast open space of the farmlands and the apple orchards of the old Mississauga. A very brief moment of silence occurs, the music speeds up, as we hear the strings present the “city” motive. This very rhythmic and energetic theme reflects the hustle and bustle of the city. The music slows down, and a very lyrical theme is presented by the flutes, vibraphone and harp; reflecting my memories of the beautiful swans swimming on Credit River, the sail boats in the harbour, and memories of how beautiful the old Mississauga landscape looked after a snow storm on a sunny day. As the flute holds its' final note in this passage, the music speeds up once again. The “city” motive returns and the music builds towards an exciting and grand finale.

Larysa Kuzmenko / 2014