

Neutral Ground

for chamber orchestra 2(picc).2.2.2/2.2.1/3perc[3 bass drums, 3 log drums, triangle, Marimba (low A), Glock.]/pf/handbells/strings

10 minutes

Brooke Joyce (2008)

Commissioned and premiered by the Water City Chamber Orchestra, 2008

Program Note:

The Neutral Ground was a section of land in northeast Iowa set aside for the Winnebago tribe in 1832. Though their ancestral lands included much of the area around Oshkosh and the Fox River Valley in Wisconsin, the Winnebagos ceded land to the United States throughout the early 19th century. One of the chiefs present at the signing of these treaties was Waukon Decorah, or Snake Skin, for whom the towns of Waukon and Decorah, IA, were named. It is through him and his tribe that northeast Iowa shares a history, albeit a bittersweet one, with Oshkosh.