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Complete description profile:

An accomplished composer, conductor and lecturer, **Eric Whitacre** has quickly become one of the most popular and performed composers of his generation. The ◆unearthly beauty and imagination◆ (Los Angeles Times) and ◆emotional directness and intensity◆ (American Record Guide) of Whitacre◆s music create a visceral, impassioned response in audiences and performers. In 2008, the all-Whitacre choral CD ◆Cloudburst◆ (released by the British ensemble Polyphony on Hyperion Records) became an unexpected international best-seller, topping the classical charts and earning a Grammy nomination. The BBC raves that "what hits you straight between the eyes is the honesty, optimism and sheer belief that passes any pretension. This is music that can actually make you smile.◆ Eric Whitacre began singing with his college choir at the age of 18, and the experience changed his life forever. He wrote his setting of Go, Lovely, Rose for that same choir three years later. Eric went on to earn his Master◆s degree in composition at the Juilliard School, where he studied with John Corigliano. Since then, Whitacre has received numerous commissioning awards and honors. His work has received thousands of performances, with sheet music sales of over 1,000,000 copies worldwide. His cutting edge musical Paradise Lost: Shadows and Wings, which combines influences including trance, electronica, and anime with choral, cinematic, and operatic traditions, won the ASCAP Harold Arlen Award, the Richard Rogers award, and 10 Ovation Award nominations. He is currently completing his first full-length oratorio for chorus, soprano soloist, and orchestra; a commission for the Berlin Rundfunkchor; and a major commission for the London Symphony Chorus which will be performed with the London Symphony Orchestra in October 2010. His music has been featured on dozens of commercial and independent recordings. His first recording, The Music of Eric Whitacre, was hailed by The American Record Guide as one of the top ten classical albums of 1997. In 2006, a full collection of his a cappella music, Cloudburst and Other Choral Works, was released on the renowned British classical label Hyperion Records. The album quickly became an international best seller, appearing in the top ten of both Billboard◆s and iTunes◆s Top Classical Albums charts. Two years after its debut, the critically acclaimed release continues to be a top-seller. The collection earned a 2007 Grammy nomination for Best Choral Performance. A true innovator, Whitacre writes music that incorporates contemporary sounds and influences while demanding the highest standards of precision, intonation, and ensemble. Eric Whitacre divides his time between conducting and teaching throughout the world and the ever-increasing demands of his composing. He lives in Los Angeles with his wife, soprano Hila Plitmann, and their son.

Whitacre Eric, Mr.
Composer, conductor and lecturer