

## **JOHN E. CHEETHAM**

John E. Cheetham, Professor Emeritus of Music Theory and Composition at the University of Missouri-Columbia, was born in Taos, New Mexico in 1939. He received his Bachelor and Masters degrees from the University of New Mexico in 1962 and 1965, and a Doctor of Musical Arts in Composition from the University of Washington in 1969.

During his tenure at Missouri from 1969 to 2000, he wrote compositions for virtually all media and his works have been widely performed in the United States and abroad. Much of his music has been published commercially and, since 2001, through his own publishing firm, BoonesLick Press. Recordings of many of his works are available on Crystal, Concord, Mark, Pro-Arte, Summit and NPR Classic labels.

In addition, Dr. Cheetham has received numerous commissions including those from the Kentucky Derby Museum, Texas Tech University, the Atlanta Symphony Brass Quintet, Belhaven College, the Central Oklahoma Directors Association, University of Southern Mississippi Southern Chorale, the Summit Brass, the Air Force Band of the Midwest and the Central Oregon Symphony Association (Bend OR), as well as from several individual soloists. He has written several commemorative pieces including a work in memory of the Oklahoma City bombing victims, a piece celebrating the sesquicentennial anniversary of the University of Missouri, works celebrating the lives of former teachers, and an overture for the opening of the 14<sup>th</sup> International Music Festival in Belem, Brazil.

Although the majority of his commissions are for adult organizations, Dr. Cheetham enjoys the opportunity of writing accessible compositions at the appropriate difficulty level for the younger groups. Previous compositions for youth groups include works for the Missouri All State String Orchestra and the Jefferson City (MO) High School String Orchestra.

Dr. Cheetham is a member of ASCAP and has received ASCAP Special Awards yearly since 1988. In 1992 he won the Abraham Frost Prize in Composition and has also been the recipient of a Centennial Distinguished Alumni Award from the University of New Mexico.