

TRUE NORTH

Commissioned by Liam Teague for solo tenor pan and percussion ensemble, *True North*, reflects a sentiment shared by Thomas Merton in his semi-autobiography, *The Seven Story Mountain*. *True North* is the title of a chapter in which Merton arrives at a monastery after having searched his whole life for peace - to have initially found it at the monastery - only to learn that reconciling our call to greatness as artists and living a life of moderation will always be a lifetime struggle.

This was the course of Merton's life as a poet, artist, author, social activist, but most uniquely - a Trappist monk who helped bridge the gap between the Catholic church and a number of Eastern religions. *True North* draws inspiration from J.S. Bach, Arvo Pärt, Béla Bartók, John McLaughlin, Daniel McCarthy, and Zoltán Kodály.

**contact composer for purchasing information*