Program Notes:
Throughout the history of the brass family, the repertoire and pedagogy for the cornet has always held an important place within both the development and study of the trumpet. During the late eighteenth and early nineteenth century the cornet had reached its peak in popularity through the virtuosic performances of the cornet soloists, J.B. Arban, Norman Bellstedt, Herbert Clarke, Jules Levy, Walter Rogers, Bohumir Kryl, Ernest Williams, and many others. My purpose in presenting this recording is to help stimulate continued pedagogical interest in studying and performing on the cornet, as well as presenting additional literature for the current trumpet student. Lip flexibility, fingering dexterity, improved multiple tonguing techniques, and overall musical phrasing will all be improved through consistent study of these or similar solos. This is also an opportunity to hear the solo cornet accompanied by piano, as much of the original literature was commonly heard or accompanied by the wind band.

The literature included in this recording contains a few selections that have become staples of the cornet literature, including Herbert Clarke's "Carnival of Venice" and Norman Bellstedt's "Napoli." Most of the other selections have never been recorded with piano, are written by composers who are less familiar, or are seldom performed on the cornet. Many of these works are personal favorites that are accessible to the advanced high school or college student. It is my hope that by recording some of these lesser known compositions, which I think are real gems, this music will be enjoyed and performed more frequently on the cornet by students and professionals in the future.

I thank my wonderful colleague Dr. Edward Turley, not only for his incredible musicianship and advice, but his close friendship and accompanying of 35 years. I would also like to thank the College of St. Benedict for their assistance in funding the recording of this project.

I would like to dedicate this recording to my grandfather and first trumpet teacher Hadyn White, who gave me my first instrument, a $30.00 "Revere" Cornet at the age of 12. His many hours of dedicated instruction and accompanying of the literature for the cornet will never be forgotten.

Recorded at the Stephen B. Humphrey Theatre, Saint John's University, Collegeville, Minnesota.