

William Susman OIL ON ICE

Belarca Records presents *Oil on Ice,* the award-winning soundtrack by American composer William Susman. The film, directed by Bo Boudart & Dale Djerassi, won the International Documentary Association's Pare Lorentz award for representing the "democratic sensibility, activist spirit and lyrical vision of the legendary documentarian."

Oil on Ice is a vivid, compelling and comprehensive documentary connecting the fate of the Arctic

National Wildlife Refuge to decisions America makes about energy policy, transportation choices, and other seemingly unrelated matters. Caught in the balance are the culture and livelihood of the Gwich'in people and the migratory wildlife in this fragile ecosystem.

Soloists on the soundtrack include former Kronos Quartet cellist Joan Jeanrenaud and vocalist Adeline Peter Raboff, a prize-winning author and Gwich'in environmental activist. The film opens with Adeline singing a folk song, "Shik'eenoohtii" (Take Care of Me) with a melody by John Luther Adams. The album was recorded, mixed and mastered by Stephen Hart at Fantasy Studios in Berkeley, California.

William Susman has created a distinctively expressive voice in contemporary classical music, with a catalog that includes orchestral, chamber, and vocal music, as well as numerous film scores. In addition to his work as a composer, he spearheads the contemporary ensemble OCTET and Belarca Records. AllMusic calls him an exemplar of "the next developments in the sphere . . . [of] minimalism," and textura describes him as "not averse to letting his affection for Afro-Cuban, jazz, and other forms seep into his creative output." His music has earned praise from The New York Times for being "vivid, turbulent, and rich-textured," from Gramophone as "texturally shimmering and harmonically ravishing," and from Fanfare for being "crystalline . . . and gloriously lyrical."

