

# SCATTER MY ASHES

Press inquires: [info@belarca.com](mailto:info@belarca.com)



New Composers from Around the World

## ABOUT THIS ALBUM

OCTET's inaugural album, recorded over the past few years with renowned engineer John Kilgore, will be released in June by Naxos on the Belarca label. The album features the music of William Susman and includes two song cycles, *Scatter My Ashes* and *Moving in to an Empty Space* (performed by soprano Mellissa Hughes), as well as Susman's *Piano Concerto* and the ensemble work *Camille*.

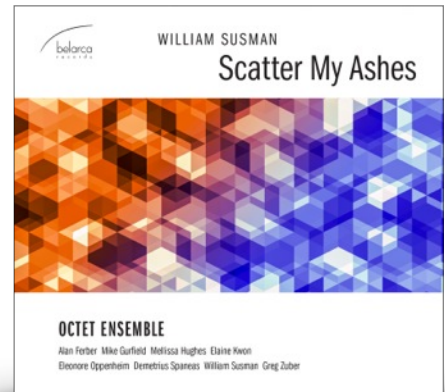
OCTET takes the instrumentation of the American big band and scales it down to a brass section of saxophone, trumpet, and trombone and a rhythm section of piano, electric piano, double bass and drums plus vocals.

OCTET gathers together a stellar cast of artists who have worked with eighth blackbird, SIGNAL, Alarm Will Sound, Victoire, and the Metropolitan Opera Orchestra. Their repertoire, which features music by composer and founder William Susman, includes the live performance of the film score to *Native New Yorker* (Best Documentary Short award, Tribeca Film Festival).

OCTET was founded in 2011 and subsequently premiered Susman's Piano Concerto at Zankel Hall that year.

*The New York Times* has described William Susman's music "vivid, turbulent and rich-textured" and, *Folk & Acoustic Music Exchange* praised his last album *Music for Moving Pictures* with cellist Joan Jeanrenaud as "A flawless gem... [of] rare beauty and consummate aesthetic discretion."

*William Susman's remarkable achievement is to take the familiar instrumentation of American popular music, harmonic and rhythmic influences from jazz and Afro-Cuban music and sinuous melodic lines that are uniquely his own and weave them into something new and fresh, yet timeless and haunting. Memorable yet enigmatic, simple yet profound, Susman's music is irresistible. -John Kilgore*



## Release Information

Label:	Belarca
Item #:	BARC4
Barcode:	689466779523
US SRP:	\$16.99
CAN SRP:	\$20.99
Digital Release Date:	June 10, 2014
Physical Release Date:	June 10, 2014

## CREDITS

### MUSICIANS

Music by William Susman

Poems by Sue Susman

### Members of OCTET

Vocals: Mellissa Hughes

Saxophone: Demetrius Spaneas

Trumpet: Mike Gurfield

Trombone: Alan Ferber

Drums: Greg Zuber

Piano: Elaine Kwon

Electric Piano: William Susman

Double Bass: Eleonore Oppenheim

### PRODUCTION CREDITS

Produced by William Susman

Sound engineer and mixing: John Kilgore

Recorded and mixed at Kilgore Sound, New York City, September 2011 to January 2014

Mastering engineer: Alan Silverman

Mastered at Arf! Mastering, New York City

Additional sound engineer: Josiah Gluck

Additional mixing by Stephen Hart, assisted by Ana

Sophia Dunham at The Site, San Rafael, California

Cover design by Daniel Sofer / Hermosawave

Photography by Ken Goodman

Cover image by Ben Swift

