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This Awareness of Beauty
The Orchestral and Wind Band Music
of Healey Willan

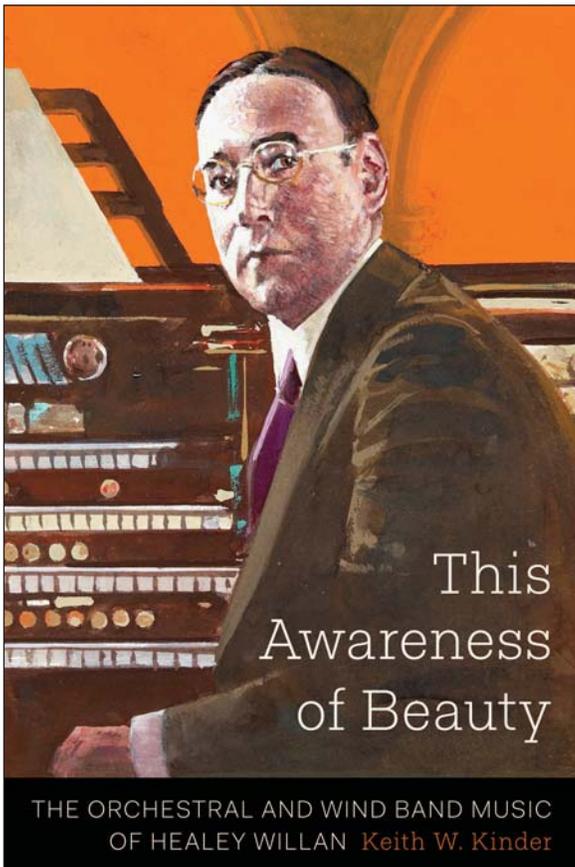
Keith W. Kinder

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This Awareness of Beauty is the first book to consider the orchestral and wind band music of Canadian composer Healey Willan, who was known primarily for his choral work. A succinct biography accompanies historical, analytical, and critical investigations of Willan's instrumental music, asserting Willan's seminal place in Canadian music and the significance of his orchestral and wind band music both nationally and internationally.

The compositions are investigated in chronological order to illustrate the composer's evolution as a creator of instrumental music from his early years in England to his later, and more notable, accomplishments in Canada. Willan's orchestral music may be seen as both a reaction to and a stimulus for the significant improvement in Canadian orchestral performance during the 1930s and 40s—a factor in the creation of his large-scale compositions, including two symphonies and a piano concerto.

Although much has been written about Willan, most of it has centred on his choral work, with biography and/or musicology as the frame of reference; this project considers his instrumental music in terms of performance, provides historical context for many of the works included, and corrects errors that have crept into the literature.

Keith Kinder is currently a professor of music and the director of the School of the Arts at McMaster University in Hamilton, Ontario. An internationally recognized researcher, he is the author of *The Wind and Wind-Chorus Music of Anton Bruckner* (2000), *Best Music for Chorus and Winds* (2005), and *Prophetic Trumpets: Homage, Worship and Celebration in the Wind Band Music of Richard Wagner and Franz Liszt* (2010).

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