

Wide Brown Land

1 – The Land

2 – History

3 – The Joyful People

Ralph Hultgren

This work has been commissioned by the North West Queensland District Instrumental Music Program. Being the "Year of Creativity", it was considered appropriate to commission a composition for the "Big Weekend", the Mount Isa Community Orchestra Workshop 2009. "Wide Brown Land" is the outcome of that creative endeavour.

World Premiere

Mt Isa

2nd of August 2009

Wide Brown Land

Program note:

This work is a reflection of the people and the place that makes Mt Isa and the surrounding region what it is.

There is music which evokes thoughts of a time before recorded history and the people who trod the wide brown land. Sounds of colonial and pastoral life mix with the joyful chorus of celebration of our land's vivid fauna and our people's story telling.

As I wrote this work I had in my mind images of those from the region I had worked with – students and teachers – and this piece bears testament to the influence they have had on music making in “The Isa” and also on me.

Ralph Hultgren
1st of July 2009