



The Latvian composer Ēriks Ešvalds has rapidly become one of the world's most performed choral composers. His ability to bring a dramatic text to life through textures that are lush yet permeated with a more stringent and angular aesthetic has ensured a steady stream of commissions from leading orchestras and choral forces. The four works here reflect an interest in the beauty of nature, religious faith and legend. *The First Tears* explores an Inuit story and employs subtle instrumental colouration from jaw harps and Native American flutes, whilst *Passion and Resurrection* is a profound and powerful exploration of Christ's death and Resurrection.

Ēriks  
**EŠENVALDS**  
 (b. 1977)

**The Doors of Heaven**

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| <b>1</b> | <b>The First Tears (2015)</b><br><i>Jeff Evans, Native American flute • Max Kolpin, Percussion</i><br><i>Erick Lichte, Jaw harp • Kenan Koenig, Overtone singing</i> | <b>14:04</b> |
| <b>2</b> | <b>Rivers of Light (2014)</b><br><i>Emmalyn Fox, Soprano soloist • Sterling Roberts, Baritone soloist</i>  | <b>6:33</b>  |
| <b>3</b> | <b>A Drop in the Ocean (2006)</b><br><i>Rebecca Yakos, Soprano</i>   | <b>7:49</b>  |
|          | <b>Passion and Resurrection (2005)</b><br><i>Hannah Consenz, Soprano • Portland State University String Ensemble</i>   | <b>30:12</b> |
| <b>4</b> | Part I   | 9:36         |
| <b>5</b> | Part II  | 5:11         |
| <b>6</b> | Part III   | 7:12         |
| <b>7</b> | Part IV  | 8:13         |

**Portland State Chamber Choir**  
**Ethan Sperry, Conductor**

A complete list of artists may be found on page 2 of the booklet  
 Includes sung texts which may also be accessed at [www.naxos.com/libretti/579008.htm](http://www.naxos.com/libretti/579008.htm)  
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