Gwyneth Walker

Open the Door

an orchestral overture
Open the Door, an orchestral overture, was composed as an homage to The Women’s Philharmonic on the occasion of their 10th season: 1981-91. In the spirit of this orchestra which “opens the doors” of performance opportunities to many women composers, this overture -- in form and motivic content -- is intended as a gesture of opening.

The initial soli passages, marked “with hesitation,” aim to portray the isolation of solitary individuals trying to make music. During the course of “Open the Door,” these soli gradually join together, gaining in strength and energy.

Interspersed with the soli activity are chords in the brass (accented by pitched drums) which continually expand in range and dynamics as an “opening” motive. The expansion grows into a closing section marked “triumphantly” and “with determination” intended to celebrate the spirit of openness and fresh air generated when doors are opened to new opportunities.

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Dr. Gwyneth Walker (b. 1947) is a graduate of Brown University and the Hartt School of Music. She holds B.A., M.M. and D.M.A. Degrees in Music Composition. A former faculty member of the Oberlin College Conservatory, Walker resigned from academic employment in 1982 in order to pursue a career as a full-time composer. She now lives on a dairy farm in Braintree, Vermont.

Walker’s catalog includes over 130 commissioned works for orchestra, band, chorus and chamber ensembles. The music of Gwyneth Walker is published by E.C. Schirmer of Boston (choral & vocal music) and MMB Music of St. Louis (orchestral & instrumental music).

Gwyneth Walker is a proud resident of Vermont. She is the recipient of the Year 2000 “Lifetime Achievement Award” from the Vermont Arts Council.
not conducted  (soli cue each other)

Open the Door
Open the Door
Open the Door
Open the Door
Open the Door
Open the Door
with more energy

Open the Door
Open the Door
Open the Door
Open the Door
Open the Door
Open the Door
Slightly Faster $\text{ } \bullet = 138$

with much energy, but controlled

Fl.

Ob.

Cl.

Bsn.

Hn.

Tpt.

Tambourine

Congas

Vlns.

Vla.

Vlc.

Open the Door
Open the Door
Open the Door
Open the Door
Open the Door
Open the Door

Fl.

Ob.

Cl.

Bsn.

Hn.

Tpt.

Trb. 1 & 2

Trb. 3

Tuba

Congas

6 Drums

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

Bass
Open the Door
very energetically

Open the Door
Open the Door
Open the Door
Open the Door
Open the Door
Open the Door
Open the Door
Open the Door
167  Triumphantly

Fl.

Ob.

Cl.

Bsn.

Hn.

Trb. 1 & 2

Trb. 3

Tuba

Triumphantly

Vlns.

Vla.

Vlc.

Bass

Open the Door
Open the Door

Duration: 4'20"
March 27, 1990
Braintree, Vermont