



**Rebecca Hagen Watson**, a native of Fargo, N.D., began playing the bassoon in 7<sup>th</sup> grade, after mistaking it for a bass clarinet. After a short time, however, she fell in love with the exotic double reed instrument, and decided it was destiny. She received her Bachelor of Music in Bassoon Performance from the University of Minnesota, studying with John Miller and Norbert Nielubowski. She attended the Sarasota Music Festival in Florida, and was a finalist for the New World Symphony and the Tanglewood Festival in Boston. In 1996 she was invited to attend the *European Mozart Academy* in Poland, and worked with renowned international soloists such as Aurele Nicolet, Jesse Reed, Ingo Goritzki, and Michel Lethiec. In 1998, she studied at the *Folkwang Musikhochschule Essen*, and the *Robert Schumann Musikhochschule, Duesseldorf*, in Germany, with Gustavo Núñez, Principal Bassoon of the Concertgebouw Orchestra Amsterdam. She received her Master's Degree, Magna Cum Laude, in 2001. She held the position of Bassoonist and Contrabassoonist of the *Pfalztheater Kaiserslautern* in Germany for 8 years, and had the opportunity to perform concerts, opera productions, live TV and Radio broadcasts, to record commercial CDs, and to play for European Heads-of-State with great orchestras such as the Chamber Orchestra of Europe, *Deutsche Kammerphilharmonie Bremen*, the *Suedwest Rundfunk Kaiserslautern*, *Saarlaendische Rundfunk* orchestras. In 2008, she returned to Texas to continue her studies, and received the position of Adjunct Professor of Bassoon at the University of Texas at San Antonio. Rebecca was awarded the position of Principal Bassoon of the Victoria Symphony Orchestra in 2011. She and her husband moved to Arizona in 2012, and she is completing her dissertation for her Doctor of Musical Arts degree at the University of Arizona in Tucson. She and her husband moved to Washington, D.C. this summer for their careers, and are very busy taking care of their two wonderful dogs in their free time.