

The Seventh Healing Song of John Joseph (Blue) for flute or Eb alto saxophone and electronic media was commissioned for Eric Hoover by Arizona State University in 1982. Creating a "musique-concrète" composition for an acoustic instrument provided an opportunity to experience a magical world of manipulated acoustic sound and thus, create a dialogue with the supernatural. Sonic resources include wine glasses, voice and muted piano manipulated by tape recorders and a 1970's "echo-plex."

Anyone living in the Southwest soon recognizes the impact of the Native American culture and is likely to notice its shared traditions with the "Far East." The mantra is similar to the repetitive color imagery (usually red or blue) of the Navajo "horse songs". Ceremonial drums, as well as mandala designs, are common to both cultures. The Healing Song is my artifact of this fascination with the oriental pioneers and with those individuals who practice the mystical art of healing. I wish to express my appreciation to Eric Hoover for recording the contrapuntal flute melodies and premiering the flute and tape version of this work. J.D.