

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Raleigh Music Teacher Gets Recording Debut

Nashville recording of his work released by Hourglass International, Inc.

LADERA RANCH, CA – October 15, 2012 – Ben Tomczak, a Raleigh, NC resident, contributed on *Reaching Out*, a debut album by [Stefani Rose](#), which was released on October 2, 2012. This album was also a debut for Ben Tomczak, whose collaboration in preparing the album resulted in a trip to Nashville and co-writing credit for one of the songs.

Ben has the best job in the world. He gets to make music *and* teach students about making music all day. He even gets a couple of weekday mornings free to spend with his children; however, there had been something missing from his professional and artistic life. Ten years after finishing undergraduate studies in composition, he still had not published any of his music. [Reaching Out](#) changed all that.

With this new release, Ben connected to a project that has a charitable purpose; all proceeds from the title track *Reaching Out* will be donated to the [Epilepsy Foundation](#). By having a chance to fulfill his dream, he was also having a chance to help the three million people in the U.S. that have epilepsy.

“Ben was so giving during our working sessions in Raleigh that I invited him out to Nashville to lend his expertise to the recording process,” said Stefani Rose. “His musical ear and knowledge of theory was indispensable. I hope that he’s available for my next recording session. While in the studio he worked so hard to ensure that I was getting the perfect sound for every arrangement. He was a gift and a great collaborating artist.”

A graduate of Enloe High School in Raleigh, NC, Ben Tomczak credits his primary and secondary school teachers for encouraging a lifelong passion for music and learning. Ben has taught choral, instrumental, and general music in local schools for eight years. He directed the M’n’M Singers, a choir of adults with developmental disabilities for the Arc of Wake County for six years, brought children’s opera to schools through Durham’s CAPS program, and has been active in his church youth choir.

After additional studies in pedagogy, Ben received his teaching license and used his background in composition as a springboard for inventiveness in the classroom. Although he discovered his calling, passion, and joy as a music educator, he seldom held fewer than two jobs at the same time to have full time work and contribute financially to his family.

Going to Nashville was an unforgettable experience for our local music teacher. Nashville is aptly nicknamed “Music City” for the pervasiveness of music and music-making. Ben’s time in the studio was punctuated with hearing the world-class musicianship and improvisation from the studio musicians. He described the band members not only as amazing musicians, but also as great people, fun and engaging.

Ben was thrilled to have had the experience of collaborating with these artists, and he knew that

he would bring so much of this music-making process back to the classroom. He is listed as a Co-writer on the song [*Let Go \(Let God\)*](#), and can't wait to share the music he helped make in Nashville with the world.

Ben Tomczak studied undergraduate music at Hampshire College and focused upon teaching music throughout the completion of his Masters of Pastoral Studies at Loyola University New Orleans. He maintains membership in the National Association of Pastoral Musicians (NPM) and the National Association for Music Education.

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