



Jens Nygaard, circa 1948

LIFE ON JUPITER The Story of Jens Nygaard, Musician

Produced and Directed by
MARTIN SPINELLI

Edited by
LISA PALATTELLA

Jens Nygaard, recognized as one of the great conductors and musical geniuses of our time, grew up in a small town in Arkansas. His painful journey began as an isolated child prodigy who came to New York with high aspirations and later found himself homeless and institutionalized in a psychiatric hospital. This unflinching biography describes his powerful creative force and optimism, even throughout his battle with bone marrow cancer. Jens Nygaard demonstrated

untempered idealism, performing for the homeless and others who might never have heard live classical music. His teaching helped launch some of today's finest musicians, who describe why his music-making and compositions are memorable phenomena. This triumphant tale, intercut with live musical performances, is told by friends, colleagues, and now-famous performers. His Jupiter Symphony prevailed in Manhattan for more than two decades, receiving acclaim from New York's toughest music critics. Jens Nygaard died on September 24, 2001, but his spirit continues with the Jupiter Symphony Chamber Players launched by his wife, Mei Ying. (See www.jupitersymphony.com)

- **2002 Emmy Award for Programming about the Arts**
- **Best Documentary Film Award at the 22nd Annual Breckenridge Festival of Film**
- **Directors Guild of America Nomination for Outstanding Achievement Award**
- **Chris Statuette Award at the Columbus International Film & Video Festival**
- **Hot Springs Documentary Film Festival Opening Night Feature**
- **BAC Screening at New York's Metropolitan Museum of Art**

"He is regarded by musical cognoscenti as one of the great musicians of the twentieth century." Martin Bookspan, Critic and Commentator May 2000

"Nygaard is unique. Everyone of his concerts is a musical adventure... May he thrive!" Harold C. Schonberg September 2000

"...in the shadow of Lincoln Center... you can hear some of the most meaningful music-making in the city: concerts by Jens Nygaard and the Jupiter Symphony." Anthony Tommasini, The New York Times February 2001

www.lifeonjupiter.com An INTERACTION MEDIA Production © 2001 Interaction Media



Life on Jupiter
The Story of Jens Nygaard, Musician
Directed by Martin Spinelli



Life on Jupiter

The Story of
Jens Nygaard,
Musician

2002
**EMMY
AWARD**

for Programming
about the Arts

An
INTERACTION
MEDIA
Production

VHS