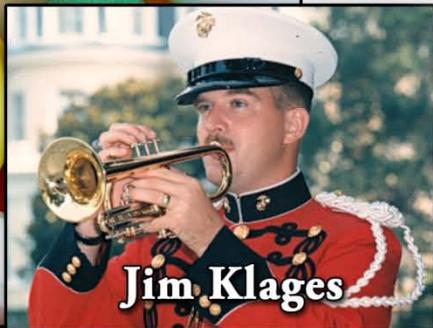


Healed

Music, Medicine and Life with MS



Renowned cornet soloist Jim Klages was hired for the top position in the elite “President’s Own” U.S. Marine Band in Washington, D.C. At the time, Jim was happily married with a daughter, a new home, and a thriving career. On the day he was performing at the Presidential Inauguration of George W. Bush, Jim felt a strange tingling in his left arm and nearly dropped his cornet. He was soon diagnosed with multiple sclerosis (MS) and his music – and life – spiraled out of control. *Healed* tells the story of a musician and his family stressed to the breaking point by the onset of a debilitating, incurable disease and Jim’s struggle to heal himself through music.



At the height of his virtuoso career, Jim’s illness robbed him of his successful life as performer, his house, financial security, and put near-ruinous stress on his marriage. Determined to heal, his passion for music became his saving grace and Jim hoped to persevere by way of composing and teaching. But that same determination also deprived his family of his time and attention, further challenging his hope of recovery.



Through vérité and archival footage, interviews, pictures, home movies, and music recordings, *Healed* takes the viewer on an emotional journey into the world of virtuosic music, illness, and perseverance. The film also features interviews with fellow musicians, including legendary jazz musician, Wynton Marsalis, who comments on Jim and his struggle with the illness. Animated sequences of music notes transforming into brain scans and back again reflect the phases of Jim’s life from health to infirmity and back to health. Filmed on location in Maryland, Washington, D.C., New York, Los Angeles, Oklahoma and Indiana, with amazing landscapes ranging from the Colorado Mountains to the Oklahoma prairies.



“I sacrificed my family for my music in order to cope with MS.” Jim recalls, “I know now that it wasn’t worth that kind of sacrifice. Not an easy lesson, though.”

For more information:

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