

Lisa Bielawa

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Note

Premiere: Premiered May 16, 2010, Cambridge, MA. Commissioned by the Cambridge Symphony Orchestra for its 35th Anniversary

Duration: 5'
Instrumentation: 3333; 4331; timp; 3 perc. Harp; strings

Lisa Bielawa's *Emerald Waltz* was commissioned by the Cambridge Symphony Orchestra in celebration of the ensemble's 35th anniversary, and is named after the gemstone commonly associated with 35th anniversaries – the emerald.

Of *Emerald Waltz*, Ms. Bielawa says, “It is always a pleasure to write an occasional piece, since commissions to celebrate anniversaries, birthdays and special events usually come from a very heartfelt place, and serve an intimate purpose for the people involved. I wanted to heighten the specific sense of occasion for the Cambridge Symphony Orchestra's special celebration by giving it not only a title but an actual structure that would be expressly about them and their important milestone. The emerald is the 35th anniversary stone, and the 'Viennese waltz' time that carries most of the piece forward is actually a pattern of 35 beats: 10 measures of 3/4 time (waltz time) plus one lopsided measure of 5/4.”

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