

Lisa Bielawa

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Note

Premiere: February, 2010, Harrisburg, PA. commissioned by Market Square Concerts & American Academy in Rome.

Duration: 5-30'

Instrumentation: For soprano and string quartet

Graffiti dell'amante is an open-ended musical-dramatic exploration of the multi-faceted predicament of the Lover. Originally inspired by Roland Barthes' playful yet poignant *A Lover's Discourse: Fragments*, the piece uses various declarations of romantic Love from my own meandering reading to enact what Barthes calls the "Figures" of the Lover (I call these figures/segments "Absence;" "Devotion;" "Ravishment;" "Remembering;" etc.) These 3-5 minute segments can be performed in any order, or in subsets to make performances of different lengths – always chosen by the audience assembled for that performance (using the figure names alone). In this way each audience hears its own collective romantic consciousness reflected back through the performance. The Lover declares him/herself to, from, and through so many faces!

The first performance of a 15-minute version of *Graffiti dell'amante* was in Harrisburg, PA in February, presented and commissioned by Market Square Concerts. The complete version was premiered in May at the American Academy in Rome. I sense that it will continue to grow, possibly for years into the future, as more Figures present themselves through my reading.

– Lisa Bielawa

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