Program Note

THE RUINS OF THE HEART

for soprano, orchestra and tape

The Ruins Of The Heart was inspired by Edmund Helminski's beautiful translations of texts by the 13th-century Persian, Jelaluddin Rumi, widely regarded as the greatest Sufi poet of all time. The texts used represent my selected excerpts from the original translation rather than any single complete poem and are embedded throughout the orchestral music, using the soprano in the dual roles of narrator and singer. As the piece evolves dramatically, the vocal and orchestral music gradually becomes more intertwined.

Having previously explored combinations of tape and live performance in a number of small chamber compositions, I was interested in composing an orchestra/tape work in which the tape would function both as a quasi-acoustic complement and as a powerfully contrasting counterpart to the live instrumental and vocal music. The three tape sections which are interpolated and overlapped with the orchestral music were synthesized by a Spectral Synthesis "SynthEngine" digital signal processing system, using Audio Vision and SynthEngine Sampler software. A variety of natural and synthetic sounds were sampled and extensively transformed by this system.

I wish to thank Robert Austin who was my collaborator in the production of the tape.

The Ruins Of The Heart was commissioned by Peter Eros and the University Symphony. It was completed in November of 1990 and is available on Volume 12 of the CDCM Computer Music Series on Centaur Records.

Diane Thome
With every breath the sound
of love surrounds us,
and we are bound for the
depthsof space, without seeing.

Empty your head of grief
and drink from the stream.
The grave is a veil before the
gathering of paradise.

This is love: to fly toward a secret sky,
to cause a hundred veils to fall each moment.

This is the time of union,
The time of eternal beauty.

Inside my Self I discover
the scent of the Friend in every breath
Why not hold this Self close every night?

Poet: Jelaluddin Rumi
Translator: Edmund Helminski
Diane Thome

The Ruins of the Heart
for soprano, orchestra and tape

Commissioned by Peter Erös and the University Symphony
ORCHESTRA

Flute/piccolo (2)
Oboe/English horn (2)
Clarinet in Bb (2)
Bassoon (2)

Horn (2)
Trumpet (2)
Trombone (2)

Harp
Piano

Xylophone
Vibraslap
Glockenspiel
Chimes
Triangle
Timpani

Violin I
Violin II
Viola
‘Cello
String Bass

Score is written in C.
Spoken:

With every breath the sound of love surrounds us,
and we are bound for the depths of space, without seeing.

\[ e = 72 \]

\( \text{app legato, languido} \)

\( \text{(ca. 5')} \)

\( \text{ah} \quad \text{oo} \)

\( \text{Vibe} \)

\( \text{PP} \)

\( \text{con sord.} \)

\( \text{div.} \)

\( \text{pp} \)

\( \text{con sord.} \)

\( \text{div.} \)

\( \text{PP} \)

\( \text{A5} \)

\( \text{ah} \quad \text{ce.} \quad \text{ce-ya aa} \)

\( \text{Flute} \)

\( \text{Clar} \)

\( \text{sup poco} \)

\( \text{Perc 2} \)

\( \text{Clock} \)

\( \text{PP} \)

\( \text{Plano} \)

\( \text{Vin 1} \)

\( \text{Vin 2} \)

\( \text{PPP} \)

\( \text{PPP} \)

\( \text{PPP} \)
continue playing into first 5-8" of tape music

Tape ses. 1 (even 2'45"

Xyls (Yarn Mallets)

continue playing into first 5-8" of tape music

sempre dim. a niente
Empty your head of grief and drink from the stream.
Poco meno mosso  \( \text{\textit{d = 72}} \)

```
the grave
the grave is a veil
the
```

```
expr., legato
```

```
pp
```

```
pp
```

```
2 senza vibrato
```

```
2 singile
```

```
grav is a veil
```

```
molto cresc.
```

```
f
```

```
2
```

```
2
```

```
sempre cresc.
```

```
ff
```

```
sempre cresc.
```

```
ff
```
fore the gathering of paradise
the gathering of paradise

of paradise

misterioso con cord., sul tasto

misterioso con cord., sul tasto

misterioso con cord., sul tasto

misterioso con cord., sul tasto
The following 8 bars of orchestral music should be played twice, with a slight break at the end of each passage. The final four bars should then be repeated 2 or 3 times until the taped music concludes.
fly toward a se·crest sky to cause a hun·dred veils a hun·dred veils
This is the time of union.
Meno Mosso $\varphi = 06.-69$

misterioso con sord., sul tasto

side my Self I dis-cov-er the scent of the Friend in ev- ery breath...