

***Winter Constellations* (2001)**

Brooke Joyce

"*Winter Constellations* was composed in January and February of 2001 for the Verdehr Trio and is dedicated to them. The title refers both to the season in which the music was written as well as the idea of musical constellations formed by combinations of the three instruments. The piece is divided into seven parts, each of which is played by a solo instrument or duo. (Part IV is the only section where all three instruments play together): I. clarinet, II. clarinet and violin, III. violin and piano, IV. trio, V. clarinet and piano, VI. piano, VII. violin. The proportions for each segment were determined by adopting the Jo-Ha-Kyu structure suggested by Japanese Noh theater, in which the Jo is a rising introduction, the Ha is a scattering or development, and the Kyu is a quick resolution."

—Brooke Joyce

The world premiere of *Winter Constellations* was on December 11, 2001, Cranbrook Music Guild, Christ Church Cranbrook, Bloomfield Hills, Michigan.

Brooke Joyce (born 1973, Lansing, Michigan) was raised in East Lansing, Michigan. He earned degrees in composition from Princeton University, the Cleveland Institute of Music, and Lawrence University. He attended summer courses with Joan Tower, Magnus Lindberg, and Alun Hoddinott. He is the Composer-in-Residence at Luther College and a faculty member at the International Music Festival of the Adriatic.

His orchestral music has been performed by the symphonies of Cincinnati, Indianapolis, Spokane, and the San Francisco Youth Symphony. Chamber music performances include premieres by the Nouvel Ensemble Moderne, the Contemporary Music Forum of Washington, D.C., and the Brentano String Quartet.

Joyce is the recipient of the Joseph Bearns Prize from Columbia University, the Wayne Peterson Prize, the Darius Milhaud Award, and many citations from the National Federation of Music Clubs and ASCAP.

Additional information is available at www.brookejoyce.com.