

*Lullaby* (1989)

Vojtěch Saudek

The world premiere of *Lullaby* was on April 5, 1989 in Joself Manes Hall, Prague, Czech Republic.

Vojtěch Saudek (1951–2003) was born in Prague, Czechoslovakia. He studied philology at Charles University in Prague, and from 1977 to 1983 studied piano, conducting, and composition at the Prague National Academy of Music. His diploma thesis was dedicated to the work Svatopluk Havelkas. Later, living in Paris, he studied composition and electroacoustic music at the Paris Conservatory and electronic and computer music at the Paris IRCAM.

Saudek's compositional focus was on orchestral, chamber, and vocal music. He had a special connection to texts by Shakespeare and Kafka. (His father was a translator of Shakespeare works to Czech, and his mother was Kafka's niece.)

Saudek's works were commissioned by Czech and foreign institutions, soloists, and ensembles, and received a number of awards. Among these are his opera *Memnon* which won the Leoš Janáček Prize of the Czech Music Society, *Shakespeare's Designs* which received a second prize in the Ostrava competition Generation, and his concerto for piano and orchestra *In Memory of Gideon Klein* which received a first prize. (Saudek was the publisher of the work of Gideon Klein.) A symphonic work was awarded second prize at the Young Composers Competition of the Czech Socialist Republic.