

Composer Notes

ANDRE MYERS

The first iteration of *Changes* was for clarinet quintet. Composed in the winter of December 2004 and January 2005, I wrote the piece to accompany an art gallery opening at the University of Michigan's central campus museum. Andrew Tholl and his new-music ensemble, Warped Consort, premiered the piece at a concert celebrating the opening of an exhibition of minimalist art. We were all students back then just trying to make music and wade through the winter.

I was later commissioned to compose an orchestral arrangement of the piece by my friend Nan Washburn for the Michigan Philharmonic. That work, which is what you will hear tonight, was done in the waning months of 2011 and premiered in January 2012.

The best way I know how to describe the piece is to say it draws its energy from autumn and winter, not spring and summer; from soul, not spirit; from yin, not yang. Quiet and contemplative, *Changes* was born from what I love of the harmonic, rhythmic, and aesthetic properties of early process, or "minimalist" music. Folks often think Process Music celebrates repetition, but I believe this music celebrates change. It is a meditation on the beauty change. I hope you enjoy *Changes*.