Big Raven

for string quartet

Jocelyn Morlock

Vancouver 2015

Commissioned by and dedicated to the Emily Carr String Quartet

An die Musik, for TTBB Choir

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Program Note:

I'm fascinated by Emily Carr's paintings, and also by her writings about them: her need to saturate her work with strong emotion matches my own desire. Of *Big Raven*, the painting that is focus of my new quartet, she wrote "I want to bring great loneliness to this canvas and haunting broodiness, quiet and powerful." (Quote from Hundreds and Thousands: The Journals of Emily Carr.)

In my quartet, *Big Raven*, there is a great deal of contrast – the music moves between mournful, lonely passages and much more energetic, frenetic stretches. At the center of the work is an elegiac section that traverses the entire registral range of all four instruments, and is the formal and emotional heart of the piece.

Thank-you to the Emily Carr String Quartet for commissioning *Big Raven* and bringing it to life!







































