

***Riddle of a day* for flute, harp and string trio (2007, revised 2012)**

Just how realistic can music be? How precisely can it render the events and situations of real life? Can this rendition even make sense from a musical point of view? My quintet, which is named after a picture by Giorgio de Chirico, depicts the course of a single day in five movements. The first movement is a piece which focuses on the night and the passing from day to night; the second is a representation of morning bird song; the form of the third movement is inspired by the course of the sun; the fourth is based on a well-known afternoon flute solo; the fifth closes the loop back to the beginning. The degree of abstraction varies from one movement to the other and with it the extent to which the connection to 'reality' is recognizable. It is comparable to the degree to which a picture, a photograph or a symbol reflects the reality that is being depicted.