

Among the Angels  
for voice and live electronics  
(3 movements)

12 minutes

Brooke Joyce (2013)  
Text by Rainer Maria Rilke

Commissioned by Andrew Whitfield  
Premiered by Andrew Whitfield, June 2013

Program Note:

Poet Rainer Maria Rilke composed his *Duineser Elegien* (*Duino Elegies*) over a period of ten years, beginning in 1912. Named for the Adriatic town of Duino, where Rilke was staying as the guest of Princess Marie of Thurn und Taxis when he began the poems, the ten elegies explore powerful themes with mystical, almost fanatical, intensity. As part of the inaugural International Music Festival of the Adriatic in June 2013, I composed *Among the Angels*, a piece for baritone and electronics, for my friend and colleague Andrew Whitfield. The text is drawn from the opening line of Rilke's first elegy in three different languages—German, the original text; Italian, the language of the town of Duino; and English:

Wer, wenn ich schrie, hörte mich denn aus der Engel Ordnungen?

Chi, se io gridassi, mi udirebbe mai dalle schiere degli angeli?

Who, if I cried out, would hear me among the orders of angels?