

DAN VISCONTI: *LONESOME ROADS*

Dan Visconti composes concert music infused with the directness of expression and maverick spirit of the American vernacular. Characteristics of jazz, bluegrass, and rock collide with Dan's classical violin background. Dan's commission credits include works written for the Kronos Quartet, JACK Quartet, Da Capo Chamber Players, Scharoun Ensemble of the Berlin Philharmonic, eighth blackbird, and many others. His music has been performed at venues including Carnegie Hall, the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, London's Barbican Theatre, and Sydney Opera House. He was recently commissioned by American Composers Orchestra at Zankel Hall for *Glitchscape*, a piece including experimental video elements and old electronics.

Dan's music has been recognized with the Rome Prize, Berlin Prize, TED Fellowship, and awards from the Fromm Foundation, Naumburg Foundation, and the American Academy of Arts and Letters. He has been a fellow at MacDowell Colony, Copland House, the Lucas Artists Program at Villa Montalvo, and the Virginia Commission for the Arts. Dan is currently a contributing writer for the Huffington Post and serves as Director of Artistic Programming at Chicago's Fifth House Ensemble.

IN THE COMPOSER'S OWN WORDS

Lonesome Roads was inspired by memories of long, cross-country car trips and the rumbling, uneven grooves that underscore a constantly-shifting landscape. Beginning from the faintest murmurs, the music evokes a vast space that can be alternately lonely, hypnotic, or hard-driving and rhythmic. Across several brief fragmentary movements, the initial melodic murmurings assemble themselves into propulsive ostinato figures, and aggressive riffs colored with raw timbres and powerful rhythms characteristic of rock and beat-driven music. These movements may be played in any order so that each ensemble can make their own journey with the piece, which becomes a kind of road atlas with many routes connecting any two points. It's pure "driving music," a mixtape populated with the vastness, diversity, and flavor of the North American landscape. This work was commissioned for the Gryphon, Deseret, and Triple Helix piano trios by the Barlow Endowment for Music Composition at Brigham Young University.