LYRICAL INTERMEZZO for violin, bassoon and piano is a composition in four movements inspired by poems from the collection of the same name by German romantic poet Heinrich Heine. The names of the individual movements correspond loosely with the first lines of the original German versions of the poems that I chose.

In addition to being concerned with the moods and meanings of the poems, I decided to color each movement with distinct national flavors. Subsequently,

1. *The Autumn Wind* is colored by the sounds of Spain, 2. *A Single Fir Tree* has a Norwegian influence, 3. *Flutes, Violins & Trumpets* mixes Irish folk aspects with American contemporary jazz and 4. *Midnight* contains a touch of early 20th century Vienna.

LYRICAL INTERMEZZO is 15 minutes in length and was commissioned in 2010 by the Austrian-German CrossNova Ensemble.