

*Dollhouse* was written in the summer and fall of 2011 in New York City. The work was composed for Contemporaneous of Bard College, a phenomenal new music ensemble with whom I have had the fortunate opportunity of being involved with over the past couple of years. I originally scored the piece for chamber orchestra, and then decided to expand it to a full orchestra version in order to further realize my ideas for the piece in a different context.

When I started composing *Dollhouse*, it was during the summer after my first year of college and thus I had many conflicting and reflective thoughts about myself and my choice of career as a composer. I began to think about my life and others' lives as all unique Dollhouses at the core, and how such crucial choices and decisions in our lives are perhaps predictable within our own structured environments while other aspects of our evolving lives aren't foreseeable at all. I reflected upon my journey as a composer, and how integral this creative art is to my daily existence yet how long it has taken me to accept this uncertain, enriching role that I never fully imagined for myself. Through this introspection, I became obsessed with the concept of a Dollhouse, in every implication of this word, and decided to write this piece as my interpretation of such a complex idea.

*Dollhouse* is dedicated to my mother, Judi Joyce, for always allowing and being fully supportive for whichever Dollhouse I wanted to play in.