

California Moods

1983 for Clarinet, Alto Saxophone, piano and dancer

California Moods was composed over a six week period in Los Angeles when my intermedia performing arts ensemble (the Electric Arts Duo) was in the area to present concerts, workshops and master classes. I quickly developed a love/hate relationship with California's ambiguous culture and learned to crave exposure to its two-faced ways the way one loves chocolate then regrets eating it the next day. It is at once glitter and fluff and at the same time all that is wonderful. It was fun playing with the simple ways that make up the city and it

was even more fun to leave; but once in a while I think back to those six weeks.

Nancy Drew

Cant be bought

Even though her perfume repels me

She pretends to be someone else

As I ask permission to photograph her

Between the suppliers with deep voices

In the city of Angeles of addiction

Where even sunlight refuses to touch the earth

And only neon grows the artificial grass

An entire city like a cheap hotel room

The walkers shiver in the heat

While the moon watches

Knowing its debt will be paid in time

When the shoreline slivers beneath the sand

It could have been worse

Its nice to come

But even nicer go.