

## VOICES

**Voices** is a work for soprano voice and contrabass. The poetry is written by John Gracen Brown and it is used by permission of the poet. His poetry is intimate and graceful and concerns itself with the small glances, gestures, smiles and frowns that are the unspoken subtext of relationships.

*Voices* is constructed of eight short pieces with movements one, four and seven repeating the poetry and music in modified fashion. Except for movements one, four and seven, each movement is constructed of quite different musical characters: movement two is graceful but lamenting, three is dramatic and more demonstrative, five is dance-like and somewhat emotionally restrained, six is sad and eight is regretful but resigned.

Movements one, four and seven explore new performance techniques for the contrabass and it often sounds more like a crying human voice or electronic instrument than a contrabass.