

***AnnCela Express*, for 12 cellos, alto flute, clarinet, trombone**

AnnCela Express by Daniel Goode

AnnCela Express, has no train paraphernalia as did last year's *AnnTrack* for the Flexible Orchestra—other than a reference to the title of a train which has just now been put in the shop for major repairs. To back-track, so to speak: I was going to make the whole of *AnnCela Express* out of a traditional Serbian tune I heard on a movie sound track, called in English, roughly, "Don't ride the horse, young man, with your head down" But it didn't turn out that way, exactly. This tune does appear a few minutes into my piece played by the clarinet, but exits pretty soon, leaving a glow, a trace that becomes the armature on which the final slow dance rotates. "But first we dance," (as Danny Kaye said, postponing the poison draught offered him in the film). *AnnCela Express*, will seem to be coming to an end, will stop in fact. And then after acknowledging, we hope, your applause, it will start up again with a reprise of the final slow dance music, in which the audience can choose to schmooze (in the back), or to dance, or to listen for another few minutes. I think of this final music as a *walking meditation*, no partners necessary, though possible, improvisatory moving with no particular format implied. Quiet or vigorous, done sitting, or in the aisles. *AnnCela Express* is for, and dedicated to Ann. [DG]

Daniel Goode is the founder of the Flexible Orchestra, co-founder / director of the DownTown Ensemble, and a founding member of Gamelan Son of Lion. His works are published and distributed by Frog Peak Music (www.frogpeak.org). He was a New York Foundation for the Arts Fellow in music composition for 2004.