

*Lachrymae* for unaccompanied violin was written for the violinist Daniel van Biemen in memory of his father Wybo van Biemen (who was a distinguished violinist and violin teacher in the Netherlands). The piece employs those letters of the alphabet from the dedicatee's and his father's names which double as musical note names:

D—A—E, B flat, A, B flat—E. This material, which is heard thematically right at the outset, is varied and extended by mirror-image, transposition, and other techniques. The personal *motto* theme serves as point of departure for a relatively free, improvisatory form. Several times in the piece the theme is disrupted by unsettled, declamatory-like statements, producing different degrees of tension and anxiety. With the final appearance of the theme (transposed, inverted and augmented at once) the mood is completely transformed, bringing the music into a quite dissolution in high register.

*Lachrymae* was premiered by Daniel van Biemen at Yale University in December 8, 2008. International premiere by Maria Khodina took place at the Prokofiev Museum in Moscow (Russia) in June 6, 2010.