

Based on poems by Emily Dickinson, the four movements of *A share of night to bear* explores themes of absence, mortality and hope expressed in these texts

The musical ideas were influenced by Dickinson's vivid evocations of landscape, light and atmosphere, both as metaphors for these themes as well as creating a sense of location or backdrop for the poems themselves. I was also struck by the energy carried by the texts; sometimes expressed, sometimes contained.

The movements are entitled:

*On this long storm, I held a jewel, Wild nights, The lamp burns sure*