

ROBERT SIROTA

COMPOSER

PROGRAM NOTES

MIXED EMOTIONS

Program note by Robert Sirota:

I have always been interested in music's ability to express subtle gradations of affect and feeling, and particularly in its ability to project contrasting feelings in close succession (or simultaneously!). *Mixed Emotions* consists of four character pieces, each one exploring a set of opposites. The first, *Agitato/Calmo*, projects a state of mind that I frequently find myself in. *Lontano/Vicino* (far/near) is self-explanatory; it is my homage to Debussy, particularly the piano preludes. *Sweet Regrets* makes a nod towards the Brahms intermezzi. *Tender Rage* expresses anger tinged with passionate affection.