

# ROBERT SIROTA

COMPOSER

## PROGRAM NOTES

### ***DINERS* for Saxophone Quartet (2009)**

Program note by Robert Sirota:

I have always loved diners – their food, their architecture, and their vibe. For some time, I have wanted to compose a work for saxophones based upon my diner obsession, and when Paul Cohen and the New Hudson Saxophone Quartet asked me to write something, I jumped at the chance.

The first two movements of *Diners* take us for an early morning trip down Route 9 in Northampton, Massachusetts, for a hearty breakfast of bacon and eggs at the Miss Florence. The third movement is a brief meditation on the glories of neon. Moody's Diner on Route 1 in Waldoboro, Maine is something of a holy retreat for our family, so I have composed a rather extended pastoral movement to accompany my lunch of an open-faced hot turkey sandwich. The Neptune in Astoria, Queens, is the quintessential urban Greek diner: the perfect place to cap off your day with a dinner of swordfish souvlaki while the elevated N train rumbles past your window.