

**CAPRICE**  
For solo violin

**PROGRAMME NOTES**

*Caprice* was composed within a space of two weeks in response to a Guildhall School of Music & Drama student's request to include a world premiere performance for a Diploma recital; it was the first time I had written for the instrument. The seed of inspiration was a close up photo on a postcard of a small bird in flight.

The music is composed in three sections: the outer parts flow with the currents of air and a sense of poise and free fall is required of the performer; this is followed by the more focused rhythms of the middle section expressing dance and pure joy. As a special note for violinists preparing this piece for performance, it helps to think more in terms of a piano sound at times with slight accents on certain notes and a degree of decay on some of the longer notes. This is beautifully demonstrated in the video of Madeleine Mitchell on the composer's website.

*Caprice* has found its way into the heart of many young violinists; one of these was Carolyn Lam, an Australian violinist living in Adelaide of Chinese descent. Carolyn took the opportunity to work with the composer on the score when they first met in Hong Kong in 1995 and earned herself the score's dedication with the beauty of her performances.