

An Archive of the musical compositions by Herb Bielawa

Composition:

**Four for One** for violin solo

*Interrupted Song*  
*Nervous Thoughts*  
*Daydreams*  
*Dialogues*

Date: 1982

Duration: 11:32

Recording: by Bruce Bielawa

Program Note:

The title of this work obviously refers to the fact that there are four movements to be played by one person on one violin. It was written as a gift for my son when I returned from the MacDowell Colony in 1982. The challenge is to "fill" the texture with enough musical information to keep the listener's attention. In *Interrupted Song*, I created two contrasting musical gestures that occur alternately. In *Nervous Thoughts*, there are also two different gestures: rolled chords and swift passage work that traverses, in swift dispatch, over three octaves. In *Daydreams*, the violin also traverses wide tonal distances even in its overtly lyric flow. There are many double stops in this movement which contribute to its incipient harmony. In *Dialogues*, the contrast is between pizzicato and arco music as well as in extreme differences in dynamics.