

**Physical Property** (1992), string quartet & electric guitar, commissioned by Schleswig-Holstein Musik Festival for the Kronos Quartet, Boosey & Hawkes - 1992. (15')

### **Physical Property program note**

**Physical Property** is the third part of a trilogy for electric guitar and string quartet entitled **Fables with Three Tasks**. The mystery, microtones, and complicated narrative of the first two parts (**On the Verge** and **Troubadour Songs**) give way to a libido driven romp in **Physical Property**. This music is about the energy of live performance.

Between the ages of eighteen and twenty I was a professional freestyle skier. My vision of perfection was to careen down the mountain, head over heels, arms and legs flailing, on-lookers gasping, and somehow end up at the bottom with a smile on my face and not a flake on me. This esthetic comes out more in **Physical Property** than in any other work of mine. The piece demands that an unlikely combo, the quintessential classical music chamber ensemble and the symbol of adolescent rebellion, work together with consummate discipline in the service of joyous freedom.

-SM