



# Errollyn Wallen

## Horseplay (1998)

Flute/Piccolo, Clarinet, Bass Clarinet, Soprano Saxophone, Horn, Percussion

(2 players), Piano/Celesta, 2 Violins, Viola, Cello, Double Bass

Duration: 16 minutes

Published by Peters Edition (EP 7683)

Recorded on: **the girl in my alphabet** (Avie AV 0006)

First performance: The Royal Ballet choreographed by Tom Sapsford, Theatre Royal, Sheffield, 1998

Commissioned by Tom Sapsford for The Royal Ballet and dedicated to Judy Theophanous

Horseplay is a ballet for four male dancers. The composer's idea of the horse as archetype was the impetus of the work. Each movement has its own colour and word or image associated with horses: the first is 'dark' and brooding, the second is 'swift' and is a winged horse cutting brightly through the sky. The word for the third movement is 'rocking' which sways beautifully but uneasily, and the fourth, 'race', gallops on to the climactic finishing post.

Tom Sapsford

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