Der Tod Gehoert Zum Leben

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Der Tod Gehört zum Leben/Death is Part of Live
for Andrea Gessner and in memory of Charles (Chuck) Simpson
Markus M. Hoffmann, Jan. 4, 2002
Tempo: 60 per beat

originally composed and first performed 1990, scores written in 2002, copyright by Markus M. Hoffmann
new tempo: 132 per beat
During my fourth semester studying Chemistry at the Darmstadt University of Technology, Germany the father of one of my classmates and friend, Andrea Gessner, was diagnosed with cancer and died within less than two months. During this time, I composed this music and played it to her as a way to offer condolence. Over ten years later, I began to write musical scores of my compositions. I had previously video taped myself playing them because I noticed that I started to forget how to play them. When writing down the music piece by piece I followed the order of the pieces of the video recordings. It was the 4th of January 2002, when "Der Tod gehort zum Leben" was the next piece to work on. I immediately thought that I should write it down in memory of Charles (Chuck) Simpson. Chuck was a member of Trinity Emanuel Lutheran Church. He and his wife, Effie, were always kind to me. His memorial service was on the same day, Jan. 4, 2002.