

# From This Place

Music and lyrics by Deanna Witkowski

Lead sheet for vocalist; lead sheet for rhythm section;  
piano score

The title track of my 2009 recording, **From This Place**, was written for an Easter jazz vespers at New York's Saint Peter's Church. One reading at the vespers told the account of Mary Magdalene, one of Christ's followers, who visits his tomb to anoint him three days after his death. The New Testament story describes Mary's arrival at the tomb only to find that Christ's body is no longer there. In fear, she asks a gardener if he has taken the body. The gardener replies by speaking Mary's name, and she recognizes him as the risen Christ. The lyrics reflect my own meditation on Mary's emotional landscape during this tumultuous day, from the moment she wakes in the morning to her epiphany at the empty tomb.

*Notes to performers: The section from D to E slowly builds (the text here is a list of thoughts running through Mary's brain). At letter E, Mary realizes that it is Christ who is speaking to her- this section builds to the vamp at m. 96, where all of heaven bursts open.*

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Deanna Witkowski

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**A**  $\text{A}^{\flat}$   $\text{A}^{\flat}(\#11)$   $\text{A}^{\flat}-$   $\text{F}-$   $\text{E}\Delta 7(\#11)$

Ear - ly I wake in the dark,

11  $\text{D}^{\flat}\Delta 7$   $\text{C}7(\#9)$   $\text{D}-7$   $\text{D}^{\flat}\Delta 7$   $\text{C}7(\#9)$   $\text{E}\Delta 7(\#11)$

shell-shocked dream-inga-wake I see you on a cross my feet touch

17  $\text{F}-7$   $\text{G}-7$   $\text{A}^{\flat}-7$   $\text{B}^{\flat}-7$

stone-cold earth as I fall out of sleep and

21  $\text{D}^{\flat}\Delta 7$   $\text{C}7(\#9)$  (no chord)

wan - der towards your tomb.

23  $\text{D}-7$   $\text{D}^{\flat}\Delta 7$   $\text{D}-7$   $\text{D}^{\flat}\Delta 7$

**B**  $\text{D}7(\flat 9)$   $\text{D}^{\flat}\Delta 7$   $\text{D}-7$   $\text{D}^{\flat}\Delta 7$   $\text{C}7(\#9)$   $\text{E}\Delta 7(\#11)$

Ear - ly sun-light can-not piercethis dark ness; it

33  $\text{D}^{\flat}\Delta 7$   $\text{C}7(\#9)$   $\text{D}-7$

on - ly shines on your tomb, it

36  $\text{E}^{\flat}7_{\text{sus}}$   $\text{E}7(\#9)$   $\text{F}-7$   $\text{G}^{\flat}\Delta 7$   $\text{D}\Delta 7(\#11)$

on - ly shines on where the stone is gone. My feet touch