Music for Solo Cello was commissioned by Fred Sherry practically the day that my wife and I left for Europe on our honeymoon. So anxious was I to begin writing the piece that, after three weeks of traveling, I abandoned my bride at her sister¹s home in Switzerland and hurried back to Poughkeepsie and set to work. Fred Sherry gave the premiere at the Metropolitan Museum of Art on January 24, 1972.

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