

## PROGRAM NOTE

*As Biddeth Thy Tongue* is a single-movement rhapsody for solo alto saxophone showcasing the instrument's vocal qualities. It takes the form of a virtuosic fantasy (or rhapsody) in ternary form. The soloist is called upon to phrase the piece as if it were a vocalise. Rhythmic flexibility and suppleness, subtlety of inflection, and mercurial shaping of the lines give rise to a sense of continuous melodic regeneration. It is as if the soloist is dialoguing with an unseen "other" - - in turns teasing, beguiling, pleading, and finally supplicating. *As Biddeth Thy Tongue* was commissioned by Timothy McAllister, who premiered the work in 2006 and made the first recording for the Innova label.

-Kati Agócs