Award-winning composer Richard Danielpour has been championed by musicians ranging from Leonard Bernstein to the Emerson String Quartet. *Lacrimae Beati* owes its origin to Mozart’s *Requiem* and was conceived after a perilous flight in 2002. *Darkness in the Ancient Valley*, a symphony in five movements inspired by recent events in Iran, utilises a wide range of Persian folk-melodies and Sufi rhythms. *A Woman’s Life* is a cycle of poems by Maya Angelou which charts a moving trajectory from childhood to old age.