

Carmine Emanuele Cella  
**THE MANHATTAN DISTANCE**  
for orchestra  
(2010)

The piece takes inspiration from geometry. In real world we think that there is only a shortest path to go from a place to another. In advanced geometry this has been proved to be false: depending on some rules, it is possible to define many ways to have shortest paths between places. These paths are called *distances* and an important measure of distance is the Manhattan one. Using this type of distance, there are always at least two paths connecting two places.

This piece tries to create a musical equivalent of a place in which is defined the Manhattan geometry: here it's always possible to have two ways to go to a place, two solutions to a problem.

Formally, the piece is organized into two sections that represent the paths connecting two places: each section is the musical development of such ideas.

There is not a single way to view reality: this piece tries to enforce the idea that is always possible to find at least two different perspectives on things.