

Explanation

The title of the work, "Arctic Elegy", refers to the despair, frustration and even temporary madness which overcome creatures when they are exposed to the long arctic winter with its permanent darkness, cold and isolation. One member of the community can not endure the stress of the situation he is in, and sets out to seek for the sun. He is caught in a polar blizzard and loses the trail back, but in the last moment he is recovered and safely brought back home. Then, just when the mood in the community is lowest, the first beams of sunlight appear above the horizon. All rush out to hail the sun and to receive the message of the spring coming, but the sun soon vanishes again, leaving the community in a renewed depression. Outside, the night re-establishes its merciless reign over landscape and inhabitants. In accordance with the subject, the music is of an unrestrainedly romantic nature.

The composer