

## **'Raven's Lament'**

### **Needle-punch sketch**

One day, in October, 1911 whilst living in Castle Duino, near Trieste Rilke went out into the roaring wind and paced to and fro, the sea raging two hundred feet below. Suddenly he stopped, for it seemed that from the midst of the storm a voice had called to him:

**'Wer, wenn ich schrie, hörte mich den aus der Engel Ordnungen?'**

**'Who, if I cried, would hear me among the angelic orders?'**

By the evening of that day the First Elegy had been written.

*(from 'Duino Elegies' by J.B. Leishman and Stephen Spender)*