# MARTIN SUCKLING

## CATALOGUE OF WORKS

'Suckling has an exciting, distinctive voice and
a rigorous ear for detail.'

FABER *ff* MUSIC

# MARTIN SUCKLING

Martin Suckling was born in Glasgow in 1981. After spending his teenage years performing in the National Youth Orchestra and in ceilidh bands around Scotland, Suckling studied music at Clare College Cambridge and King's College London. He was a Paul Mellon Fellow at Yale University from 2003–5, undertook doctoral research at the Royal Academy of Music, and subsequently became a Stipendiary Lecturer in Music at Somerville College, Oxford. His teachers include George Benjamin, Robin Holloway, Paul Patterson, Martin Bresnick, Ezra Laderman, and Simon Bainbridge. He has benefited from residencies at the Royal Shakespeare Company, Aldeburgh Music, the Aspen Festival, and IRCAM, and has won numerous awards including the 2008 Royal Philharmonic Society Composition Prize. He lives in Manchester and is currently Senior Lecturer in Composition at the University of York.

Suckling has been commissioned by many leading orchestras and ensembles including the London Symphony Orchestra, BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra, Deutsches Symphonie-Orchester Berlin, London Sinfonietta, Britten Sinfonia, Scottish Ensemble, Hebrides Ensemble, and the Royal Shakespeare Company. Notable conductors of his works include Ilan Volkov, François-Xavier Roth, Robin Ticciati, Nicholas Collon and Pierre-André Valade. His music has also featured in many festivals including Cheltenham, Ultraschall, Chacombe, Deal, ISCM World Music Days 2007 (Hong Kong), and Oxford Lieder. In 2013 he was appointed Composer in Association with the Scottish Chamber Orchestra.

In 2011 Suckling's critically acclaimed *Candlebird* for baritone and ensemble, setting texts by Don Paterson, was premiered by the London Sinfonietta, who subsequently recorded it on their own label. In the same year *storm, rose, tiger* was premiered by the Scottish Chamber Orchestra under Robin Ticciati whilst *de sol y grana*, a concerto for violin and ensemble was premiered by Agata Szymczewska and the London Contemporary Orchestra.

Throughout the 2012/13 season Suckling wrote a series of *Postcards* for the Scottish Ensemble. These miniatures – presented initially as separate pieces to appreciative audiences across Scotland – were performed as a complete 15-minute collection at the Wigmore Hall. The BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra and Ilan Volkov premiered *Release* at their Tectonics festival in May 2013, whilst *Nocturne*, a duet for violin and cello commissioned by Aldeburgh Music, was premiered by Pekka Kuusisto and Peter Gregson.

*Six Speechless Songs*, Suckling's first work as Associate Composer with the Scottish Chamber Orchestra, was premiered in February 2014. 2015 saw Mark Simpson, Jean-Guihen Queyras and Tamara Stefanovich premiere Suckling's clarinet trio *Visiones (after Goya)* at the Aldeburgh Festival, whilst members of Aurora Orchestra premiered *Psalm*, a work for harp and three spatialised ensembles, at the Royal Academy of Art and Kings Place. A Piano Concerto for Tom Poster and the Scottish Chamber Orchestra was premiered in October 2016, and *The White Road,* a flute concerto after Edmund de Waal for Katherine Bryan and the Royal Scottish National Orchestra, followed in early 2017.

April 2017

# ORCHESTRA

## The Moon, The Moon! (2007)
orchestra
7 minutes
3(II+III=picc).3.2.bcl.3(III=cbsn) – 4.3.2.btrbn.1 – timp – perc(2): glsp/vib/crot/BD/tam-t/4 toms/ 2 wdbl/whip – cel – harp – strings
FP: 18.12.07, Barbican Hall, London, UK: London Symphony Orchestra/Michael Francis
Commissioned by the LSO in partnership with UBS as part of the Sound Adventures scheme
*Score and parts for hire*

## storm, rose, tiger (2011)
chamber orchestra
17 minutes
2(I=picc, II=picc detuned by ¼ tone).2.2(I+II=B♭ + in A detuned by ¼ tone).2 – 2.2.0.0 – timp – strings (8.6.4.4.2)
FP: 13.10.11, Usher Hall, Edinburgh, UK: Scottish Chamber Orchestra/Robin Ticciati
Commissioned by the Scottish Chamber Orchestra
*Score and parts for hire*

### Release (2013)
orchestra
12 minutes
picc.2(II=picc).2.2(II=cl in A).bcl(=E♭cl).2.cbsn – 4.3.2.btrbn.1 – timp – perc(3): vib/sml.susp.cym/
5 tpl.bl/5 almglocken/med.susp.cym/tumba/whip/tam-t/glspn/large susp.cym/tamb/BD – harp – strings
(12.12.10.8.6)
FP: 12.5.13, Tectonics Festival, City Halls, Glasgow, UK: BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra/Ilan Volkov
Commissioned by the BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra
*Score and parts for hire*

### Six Speechless Songs (2013)
chamber orchestra
12 minutes
2(both=picc).2.2(I=E♭cl, II=bcl).2(II=cbsn) – 2.2(I=tpt in D).0.0 – strings
FP: 6.2.14, Usher Hall, Edinburgh, UK: Scottish Chamber Orchestra/Robin Ticciati
Commissioned by the Scottish Chamber Orchestra to open their 40th Anniversary Concert season
*Score and parts for hire*

### Piano Concerto (2016)
piano and chamber orchestra
28 minutes
2(II=picc).2(II=ca).2(I=E♭cl).2(II=cbsn) – 2.2.0.0 – timp(=claves) – strings (8.6.4.4.2 players)
FP: 12.10.16, Younger Hall, University of St Andrews, St Andrews, UK:
Tom Poster/Scottish Chamber Orchestra/Thierry Fischer
Commissioned by the Scottish Chamber Orchestra with generous support from The Idlewild Trust, Britten-Pears
Foundation, RVW Trust, Cruden Foundation and The Hope Scott Trust
*Score and parts for hire*

### The White Road (2017)
a concerto for flute and orchestra after Edmund de Waal
14 minutes
2(II=picc).2.2(I=E♭cl).2 – 0.2.2.btrbn.0 – perc(2): vib/t.bell/drum kit/5 tpbl/4 metal objects/tam-t/TD/BD –
strings
FP: 3.2.17, Usher Hall, Edinburgh, UK: Katherine Bryan/Royal Scottish National Orchestra/Arild Remmereit
Commissioned for Katherine Bryan by the Royal Scottish National Orchestra and the Toronto Symphony
Orchestra, Peter Oundjian, Music Director
*Score and parts for hire*

# ENSEMBLE

### Candlebird (2011)
baritone and ensemble of 18 players
Text: Don Paterson (English)
25 minutes
solo baritone – 2(I=picc, II=picc+afl).1.2(I in A= E♭cl, II in B♭=bcl + cl in A tuned down ¼ tone).1 – 1.1.1.0
– perc(1): mar/mcas/bongos/whip/susp.cym/tam-t/crot – harp – strings (1.1.2.2.1)
FP: 29.5.11, Queen Elizabeth Hall, London, UK: Leigh Melrose/London Sinfonietta/Nicholas Collon
Commissioned by the London Sinfonietta
*Score 0-571-53889-4 on sale, parts for hire*

### de sol y grana (2011)
violin and ensemble of 14 players
15 minutes
solo vln – 2(I=picc, II=picc+bfl.1.1(in A = bcl in B♭).0 – 1.1(= tpt in D).1.0 – perc(1): vib/mar/cabasa/susp.
cym (bowed) – pno(=cabasa) – strings (0.0.2.2.1)
FP: 12.12.11, Spitalfields Winter Festival, Shoreditch Church, London, UK: Agata Szymczewska/London
Contemporary Orchestra/Hugh Brunt
Commissioned by London Music Masters
*Score and parts for hire*

### Postcards (2013)
string ensemble
17 minutes
FP complete version: 21.10.13, Music Hall, Aberdeen, UK: Scottish Ensemble
Commissioned by the Scottish Ensemble with support from the PRS for Music Foundation
*Score and parts for hire*

### Psalm (2015)
harp and 3 groups of 4 players
18 minutes
2 fl.2 cl(I=bcl).harp.2 vln.2 vla.2 vlc.2 db
FP: 9.11.15, Royal Academy of Arts, London, UK: Aurora Orchestra
Commissioned by Edmund de Waal for performances at the Royal Academy and Kings Place on the occasion
of *On White*, November 2015
*Score and parts for hire*

# CHAMBER

## Three Venus Haiku (2009)
cello and piano (flute, clarinet, violin and viola versions also available)
5 minutes
Cello version: FP: 8.3.09, Wigmore Hall, London, UK: Oliver Coates/Daniel Driver
Commissioned by Oliver Coates
*Score on special sale from the Hire Library*

## To See the Dark Between (2010)
piano and string sextet
10 minutes
pno – 2 vln.2 vla.2 vlc
FP: 9.5.10, Wigmore Hall, London, UK: Aronowitz Ensemble
Commissioned by the Royal Philharmonic Society and the Wigmore Hall
*Score and parts for hire*

## Nocturne (2013)
violin and cello
8 minutes
FP: 18.5.13, Britten Studio, Snape, Suffolk, UK: Pekka Kuusisto/Peter Gregson
Commissioned by Aldeburgh Music for the Faster Than Sound series
*Score and parts on special sale from the Hire Library*

## Songs from a Bright September (2014)
baritone and piano trio
13 minutes
Texts: David Sergeant (English)
FP: 26.3.14, Victoria Hall, Hartley Witney, Hampshire, UK: Matthew Rose/Angell Trio
Commissioned by the Angell Trio in memory of Michael Cuddigan
*Score and parts on special sale from the Hire Library*

## Visiones (after Goya) (2015)
clarinet, cello and piano (piano trio version also available)
12 minutes
FP: 20.6.15, Aldeburgh Festival, Britten Studio, Snape, Suffolk, UK: Mark Simpson/Jean-Guihen Queyras/Tamara Stefanovich
Commissioned by Aldeburgh Music
*Score and parts on special sale from the Hire Library*

# INSTRUMENTAL

## Lieder ohne Worte (2010)
piano
10 minutes
FP: 19.9.10, Chelsea Schubert Festival, Holy Trinity Church, Chelsea, London, UK: John Reid
Commissioned by John Reid with funding from the Ralph Vaughan Williams Trust
*Score on special sale from the Hire Library*

## Cumha na Cloinne (2013)
piano
4 minutes
*Score on special sale from the Hire Library*

# DISCOGRAPHY

### Candlebird
Leigh Melrose/London Sinfonietta/Nicholas Collon
2012      London Sinfonietta: SINFCD12012

### To See the Dark Between
Aronowitz Ensemble
2012      Sonimage: SON 11202