

FABER *f* MUSIC

John Woolrich

JOHN WOOLRICH

List of Works

BIOGRAPHY

A much commissioned and frequently performed composer, a highly creative teacher and an original programmer, John Woolrich is an important figure in British musical life. His output covers all genres and has been championed by, amongst others, the Britten Sinfonia – with whom he is currently Associate Composer – the BBC, Birmingham Contemporary Music Group, Nicholas Daniel, Joanna MacGregor and Steven Isserlis.

A number of preoccupations thread through his varied output: the art of creative transcription (*Ulysses Awakes*, for instance, is a recomposition of a Monteverdi aria, and *The Theatre Represents a Garden: Night* – a work for the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment – is based on fragments of Mozart), a fascination with machinery and mechanical processes (heard in many pieces including *The Ghost in the Machine* and *The Barber's Timepiece*), a love of song and a passionate interest in literature.

Woolrich has a practical approach to music making: he has founded a group, the Composers Ensemble, and a festival, the Hoxton New Music Days. In 1994 he was appointed the first Composer in Association to the Orchestra of St John's, a post he held until 2000. He has also formed ties with the Philharmonia Orchestra, who gave a Music of Today concert devoted entirely to his works in 1999, and the Academy of St Martin-in-the-Fields. Woolrich has built up a considerable reputation overseas: for instance, *Ulysses Awakes* has had over 140 performances in seventeen countries worldwide, including Egypt, Romania and the Lebanon, and received nine performances in Australia during the Australian Chamber Orchestra's 2001 tour.

Throughout the 1990s, Woolrich had a string of prestigious orchestral commissions which resulted in some of his most outstanding works: his concertos for viola, oboe and cello. NMC recently released a CD of the Viola and Oboe Concertos which attracted particular attention and was acclaimed as the BBC's 'Record of the Week'. Other orchestral pieces written during this period include *The Ghost in the Machine*, premiered in Japan with Andrew Davis and the BBC Symphony Orchestra and *Si Va Facendo Notte* which the Barbican Centre commissioned to celebrate the Mozart European Journey Project. In 2001, Woolrich undertook a music theatre commission from Birmingham Contemporary Music Group which resulted in *Bitter Fruit*, a masque for mime actors and large ensemble. BCMG and the Trestle Theatre Company gave the premiere with Thomas Adès, who then handed over to Pierre-André Valade for an eight date English tour.

Future plans include a suite from *Bitter Fruit* for the London Sinfonietta and Thomas Adès, and more works for the Britten Sinfonia, including a new piece for the 2003 Proms. *Arcangelo*, a work based on Corelli, will be premiered by The Academy of Ancient Music, who commissioned the work, at Symphony Hall, Birmingham in March 2003.

Woolrich was born in Cirencester and now lives in Kent.

September 2002

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☐ denotes a commercial recording of the work is available, see discography for full details

Abbreviations

WOODWIND picc piccolo; fl flute; afl alto flute; bfl bass flute; ob oboe; bob bass oboe; ca cor anglais; acl alto clarinet; Ebcl clarinet (Eb); cl clarinet; bcl bass clarinet; cbcl contra bass clarinet; bsn bassoon; cbsn contra bassoon; ssax soprano saxophone; asax alto saxophone; tsax tenor saxophone; bsax baritone saxophone

BRASS hn horn; fl.hn flugel horn; ptpt piccolo trumpet; (Bb) tpt trumpet; trbn trombone; btrbn bass trombone; scrt soprano cornet; crt cornet; rcrt repiano cornet; btuba bass tuba; euph euphonium; bar baritone

PERCUSSION ant.cym antique cymbals; BD bass drum; c.bell cow bell; cast castanets; ch.bl chinese block; chin.cym chinese cymbal; ch.dr chinese drum; chtpl.bl chinese temple block; chi.ba chime bars; crot crotales; cym pair of cymbals; glsp glockenspiel; mcas maracas; mar marimba; met.bl metal block; mil.glsp military glockenspiel; riv.cym rivet cymbal; SD side drum; siz.cym sizzle cymbal; susp.cym suspended cymbal; t.bells tubular bells; t.mil tambour militaire; tab tabor; tam-t tam-tam; tamb tambourine; TD tenor drum; tgl triangle; timb timbale; tpl.bl temple block; vib vibraphone; wdbl wood block; xyl xylophone; xylrim xyloimba

STRINGS vln violin; vla viola; vlc cello; db double bass

KEYBOARDS pno piano; cel celesta; synth synthesizer

OTHERS gtr guitar; bgtr bass guitar

All other instrument names are given in full

OPERA & MUSIC THEATRE

Bitter Fruit (1999–2000)

a masque in three acts

Duration 85 minutes

fl(=picc+af).ob.cl(=bcl).ssax.bsn(=cbsn) - hn.tpt.2 trbn(=whistle).tuba(=whistle) - perc(2): 2 SD/mil.dr/log.dr/2 BD/5 tuned gongs/2 Peking Opera gongs/2 tam-t/thunder sheet/2 susp.cym/siz.cym/hi-hat/cyms/tamb/claves/3 wdbl/sleigh bells/mark tree/bell tree/10 tin cans/dustbin/football rattle/2 whistle/waterphone/cuica/anvil/2 spring coils/tgl/2 whips/ratchet/flexatone/sandpaper blocks - vln.vla.vc.db(= whistle)

Onstage perc: anvil(s)/thunder sheet(s)/spring coils/half-shafts/tgls/scaffold feet/tgls/whistles

Commissioned by the Birmingham Contemporary Music Group with financial assistance from West Midlands Arts, the National Lottery through the Arts Council of England, and BCMG's Sound Investors

FP: 29.5.00, CBSO Centre, Birmingham: Trestle Theatre Company/

Birmingham Contemporary Music Group/Thomas Adès

Score and parts for hire

In the House of Crossed Desires (1995–96)

chamber opera in two acts

Duration 90 minutes

Libretto: Marina Warner (English)

cl(=Ebcl+bcl+ssax) - trbn - perc(2): SD/BD/BD+ped/12 tin cans/hi-hat/tam-t/claves/susp.cym/2 tpl.bl/whip/pair of coconuts/4 ant.cym/4 whistles/3 chain sets/4 hand bells/tuned gongs/guero/3 scaffold bars/flexatone/vibraslap/mark tree/log drum/waterphone/wdbl/crot/1 scaffold foot - pno(=cel+chamber organ) - db

Commissioned jointly by the Cheltenham International Festival of Music and

Music Theatre Wales with funds provided by the Arts Council of Wales

FP: 6.7.96, Cheltenham Festival: Music Theatre Wales/Michael Rafferty

Libretto 0-571-51713-7 on sale, score and parts for hire

Bitter Fruit

"... a highly original, utterly absorbing entertainment: funny, chilling, never predictable."

The Times (Barry Millington) 1.6.00

"... Woolrich's music is tight and vibrant, full of colour and atmosphere ..."

Birmingham Post (Christopher Morley) 1.6.00

"**Bitter Fruit** makes a compelling and entertaining music-theatrical fable."

The Guardian (Stephen Johnson) 31.5.00

In the House of Crossed Desires

"... Woolrich's score develops and extends his incisive, atmospheric, and innately dramatic musical voice into striking new territory."

Soundings (Malcolm Hayes) October 1996

ORCHESTRAL

Accord (1999)

concertante ensemble and orchestra

Duration 25 minutes

Concertante instruments: 1111 - 1110 - timp - perc - 2 vlms.vla.vc.db

Orchestra: 3232 - 2220 - timp - perc(2): tam-t/siz.cym/splash.cym/SD/BD/tgl/

hi-hat.cym/log.dr/claves/wdbl/ratchet/sleigh bells/tin cans/whip - strings

Commissioned by the Orchestra of St John's, Eltham College and Nottinghamshire County Council

FP: 9.10.99, Newark: Orchestra of St John's/Nottinghamshire Education Symphony

Orchestra/John Lubbock

Score and parts for hire

The Barber's Timepiece (1986)

large orchestra

Duration 7 minutes

3(II=picc.III=af).3(III=ca).3(I+II=Ebcl.III=bcl).ssax.asax.1.2 cbsn - 5.ptpt.2.3.1 - perc(3):

2-3 hi-hat/2 BD/tamb/4 wdbl/4 c.bells/tam-t/whip/afuche (cabaça)/log drum/SD/

6 tpl.bl/jingles - pno - harp - strings

FP: 13.6.86, Goldsmiths College, London: Orchestra of the National Centre of

Orchestral Studies/Adrian Leaper

Score (large) 0-571-51261-5 on sale, parts for hire

A Capriccio to Calliope Herself (2000)

orchestra

Duration 8 minutes

2 picc.1.2.1.bcl.1.cbsn - 4231 - timp - perc(2): tam-t/susp.cym/rattle/tin cans/taiko/

sleigh bells/hi-hat - strings

Commissioned by the Orchestra of St John's with funds provided by the London

Borough of Bromley

FP: 6.8.00, Crystal Palace, London: Orchestra of St John's/John Lubbock

Score and parts for hire

The Barber's Timepiece

"A dry, percussive ostinato pattern contrasting with a Birtwistle-like melodic line sets up **The Barber's Timepiece**. The music builds tension through the heightened repetition of these elements, a direct and effective way of evoking the conflicting perceptions of 'timeless' melody against the clinical onward march of time itself."

International Record Review

(Graham Simpson) January 2002

"... cleverly devised, texturally fresh and engaging ..."

Financial Times (Paul Driver) 16.6.86

Steven Isserlis

"John Woolrich really understands the essentially lyrical nature of the cello, and writes music for it that is very much the voice of the individual speaking, in contrast to the sometimes violent outpourings of the orchestra. His concerto is not a vehicle for soloistic virtuosity, or instrumental special effects; it is a heartfelt personal confession, tragic but ultimately redemptive – deeply-felt music that really communicates its message."

Cello Concerto (1998)*cello and orchestra*

Duration 23 minutes

3.2.2.2.cbsn - 4.2.flhn.3.1 - timp - perc(2): 3 djun djuns/siz.cym/taiko/tam-t - strings

Commissioned by the Norfolk and Norwich Festival

FP: 10.10.98, Norfolk and Norwich Festival, St Andrew's Hall, Norwich:

Steven Isserlis/Philharmonia Orchestra/Hugh Wolff

*Score and parts for hire***□ The Ghost in the Machine (1990)***large orchestra*

Duration 15 minutes

3(II=afl+picc.III=picc).3(III=ca).3(II=Ebcl.III=bcl).2.cbsn - 6441 - timp - perc(4): claves/

sleigh bells/4 spring coils/4 bongos/2 tam-t/BD+cym/2 log drums/2 hi-hat/BD/

boobams/4 tpl.bl/2 BD+foot ped/2 congas - harp - strings

Commissioned by the BBC

FP: 11.5.90, Suntory Hall, Tokyo, Japan: BBC Symphony Orchestra/Andrew Davis

*Score and parts for hire***□ Oboe Concerto (1996)***oboe and orchestra*

Duration 26 minutes

2 picc.1 fl.3 ob.ssax.Ebcl.cl.cbcl.2 bsn.cbsn - 4331 - timp - perc(4): hammer/anvil/

metal claves/waterphone/susp.cym/10 tin cans/brake drum/2 tam-t/tgl/hi-hat/

lions roar/5 scaffold bars/BD+ped/BD/2 scaffold feet/4 car wheels/Verdi BD/

2 spring coil/oxygen cylinder/crot - strings

Commissioned by the BBC for the 1996 BBC Promenade Concerts

FP: 14.8.96, BBC Promenade Concert, Royal Albert Hall, London: Nicholas Daniel/

BBC Symphony Orchestra/Matthias Bamert

*Score 0-571-51808-7 on sale, parts for hire***□ Viola Concerto (1993)***viola and orchestra*

Duration 20 minutes

2(I=picc.II=afl).2.2(II=bcl).2(II=cbsn) - 2200 - perc(2): 12 Thai gongs/2 tam-t/BD/

spring coil - harp - strings

Commissioned by the Cheltenham Festival with funds from South West Arts

FP: 2.7.95, Cheltenham Festival: Paul Silverthorne/BBC Philharmonic Orchestra/

Yan Pascal Tortelier

*Score 0-571-51750-1 on sale, parts for hire***Oboe Concerto***"... it has a distinctive feel, the textures are crisp and vivid, and he has solved the problem of balancing the relatively slender sound of an oboe against a full orchestra in an ingenious and convincing way."*

The Guardian (Andrew Clements) 16.8.96

"... a score of genuine power and substance ..."

Musical Opinion, Winter 1996

"... the lasting impression was of sheer melodiousness."

The Independent (Nicholas Williams) 16.8.96

Viola Concerto*"... perfectly apt for the viola: seven linked movements like songs-without-words, all of them melancholy, each with a half-concealed inspiration ... soft, pungent music, dense with thoughtful feeling but transparently scored ... quite original."*

Financial Times (David Murray) 5.7.95

"... the orchestra is treated as an extended ensemble which amplifies and resonates the soloist's musings, a pronounced lyrical vein often coming to the fore."

International Record Review

(Graham Simpson) January 2002

"... a masterpiece – in any sane society, it would have had fifty performances by now. I can't hear the conclusion without being moved almost to tears."

Colin Matthews on BBC Radio 3, May 2002

CHAMBER ORCHESTRA**Arcangelo (2002)***small orchestra*

Duration 15 minutes

0301 - 0000 - harpsichord - theorbo - strings

Commissioned by The Academy of Ancient Music with funds from the PRS

Foundation, the Ralph Vaughan Williams Trust and the Britten-Pears Foundation

FP: 1.3.03, Symphony Hall, Birmingham: The Academy of Ancient Music/

Paul Goodwin

*Score and parts for hire***Concerto for Orchestra (1998)***chamber orchestra*

Duration 18 minutes

picc.1.2(II=ca).2(II=bcl).2 - 2(II=pictpt).2.0.0 - timp - strings

Commissioned by the London Mozart Players for its 50th Anniversary

FP: 11.2.99, Royal Festival Hall, London: London Mozart Players/Matthias Bamert

*Score and parts for hire***Fanfarronada (2002)***small orchestra*

Duration 7 minutes

picc.0.2.0.2 - 2300 - timp - strings

Commissioned by the Orchestra of St John's

FP: 6.6.02, Reading Town Hall: Orchestra of St John's/John Lubbock

*Score and parts for hire***Concerto for Orchestra***"Intricate and yet transparent; original and bizarre. The dominant motif of the 'raucous' sections is just a sequence of stabbing repeated notes, always preceded and followed by a whirling chromatic flourish. The flourishes blossom elaborately ... As one section succeeds another, furious chromatic scales are added to the texture; and they scream upward to announce the 'peroration' ..."*

Financial Times (David Murray) 17.2.99

"... a pungently colourful, rhythmically stabbing affair ..."

The Sunday Times (Paul Driver) 21.2.99

☐ **Four Concert Arias (1994)**

two sopranos, mezzo-soprano and small orchestra

Duration 17 minutes

Text: Casanova, Goethe, Gozzi and ETA Hoffmann (English)

2.2.2.1.cbsn - 2000 - strings

FP: 21.6.94, St John's, Smith Square, London: Sally Harrison/Julia Gooding/Christine Cairns/Orchestra of St John's/John Lubbock

Score and parts for hire

A Litany (1998–99) *see under String Orchestra*

Si Va Facendo Notte (1992) *see under String Orchestra*

☐ **The Theatre Represents a Garden: Night (1991)**

After Mozart

chamber orchestra

Duration 15 minutes

2222 - 2000 - strings

Commissioned by the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment for the Mozart Now Festival

FP: 24.8.91, Queen Elizabeth Hall, London: Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment/Frans Bruggen

Score (fp) 0-571-55758-9 on sale, parts for hire

Three Pieces for Chamber Orchestra (1996–97)

chamber orchestra

Total duration 16 minutes

2(II=picc).2.2.2 - 2000 - timp - (BD) - strings

Each of the three pieces is performable separately

Score and parts for hire

A Curtain Tune (1996)

Duration 5 minutes

Commissioned by the City of London Sinfonia with support from Eastern Group

FP: 15.5.96, Kristiansand, Norway: City of London Sinfonia/Barry Tuckwell

Cantilena (1997)

Duration 4 minutes

FP: 10.10.97, Norwich Festival: Britten Sinfonia/Vernon Handley

Speed the going (1997)

Duration 7 minutes

Commissioned by the Orchestra of St John's

FP: 12.11.98, St John's, Smith Square, London: Orchestra of St John's/John Lubbock

The Theatre Represents a Garden: Night

"... a quarter-hour journey through memories and discoveries of Mozart, mostly fleeting and unfamiliar. The artistry comes in the linking-up, and the delight comes in the confounding of expectations. While the harmonies are largely classical, they often relate to each other in sly modern ways, and then Woolrich plays other games – teasing out extra beats in the bar, or slipping in 'wrong' chords and improbable orchestrations." The Independent (Robert Maycock) 27.8.91

"... appealingly quixotic..."

The Times (Paul Griffiths) 27.8.91



STRING ORCHESTRA

Another Staircase Overture (1994)

Broken music for strings after Henry Purcell

string orchestra

Duration 9 minutes

Commissioned by the BBC for Radio 3's British Music Year

FP: 2.1.95, Birmingham Town Hall: City of London Sinfonia/Richard Hickox

Score (fp) 0-571-55549-7 on sale, large score and parts for hire

☐ **It is midnight, Dr Schweitzer (1992)**

string ensemble (or string orchestra)

Duration 12 minutes

6 vln.2 vla.2 vlc.db

Commissioned by the Guildhall String Ensemble with an award from the Holst Foundation

FP: 29.6.92, St John's, Smith Square, London: Guildhall String Ensemble

Score 0-571-51680-7 on sale, parts for hire

It is midnight, Dr Schweitzer

"The eleven pieces which make up this collection are all based around the constructions of Swiss sculptor Jean Tinguely after which each piece is named. As the whole work only takes twelve minutes some are remarkably brief but poignant... the score is direct and atmospheric throughout." Musical Opinion (Brian Hick) 1.5.97

"This is echt, original Woolrich. Eleven tiny movements, each a perfectly realised cameo, each revealed, stated and gone, perfectly expressing the beautiful lines of Swiss sculptor Jean Tinguely, by whose work it was inspired."

Musical Times (Gavin Thomas) April 1993

□ **A Leap in the Dark (1994)**

string ensemble of eleven players

Duration 12 minutes

6 vln.2 vla.2 vlc.db

Commissioned by the Guildhall String Ensemble with funds from the Arts Council

FP: 28.8.94, Snape Maltings Concert Hall, Suffolk: Guildhall String Ensemble

Score (fp) 0-571-55546-2 on sale, parts for hire

A Litany (1998–99)

oboe and string orchestra

Duration 15 minutes

FP: 29.1.00, St Andrew's Hall, Norwich: Nicholas Daniel/Britten Sinfonia

Score and parts for hire

□ **Si Va Facendo Notte (1992)**

After Mozart

clarinet and eleven solo strings

Duration 20 minutes

6 vln.2 vla.2 vlc.db

Commissioned by the Barbican to celebrate the Mozart European Journey Project

FP: 6.2.92, Salzburg Mozart Acadeum, Austria: Guildhall String Ensemble/

Antony Pay

Score and parts for hire

□ **Ulysses Awakes (1989)**

After Monteverdi

viola and ten solo strings (or string orchestra)

Duration 8 minutes

6 vln.vla.2 vlc.db

FP: 11.8.89, Dartington Summer School: Guildhall String Ensemble/Clare Finimore

Score 0-571-51289-5 and solo viola part (fp) 0-571-55851-8 on sale, parts for hire

Si Va Facendo Notte

"Woolrich's voice emerged in the fascinating

juxtaposition of primary sources among

themselves, and in their relation to the present.

The first intimation came halfway through, when

a humble minuet took on a wickedly Mahlerian

scowl. Then, in a concluding elegy floating on a

sea of extended tonality, eighteenth and

nineteenth century idioms were resolved in an

atmosphere of high expressive tension."

The Independent (Nicholas Williams) 1.5.92

Ulysses Awakes

"... moodily evocative ... stunning effects ..."

The Citizen 19.7.93

"This wonderfully lyrical and elegiac work

describes the feelings of Ulysses as he awakes

from being washed up on the shore of his

homeland, after twenty years of wandering."

Soundscapes (Malcolm Hayes) October 1996

Elvis Costello's Top 5 CDs of 1998

1. Paul Hillier *Bitter Ballads*

2. Zamballarana *Zamballarana*

3. Portishead PNY: *Roselands NYC Live*

4. **John Woolrich** *Ulysses Awakes*

5. Marc Ribot *Marc Ribot y los Cubanos Postizos*

Rolling Stone Magazine 21.2.99

CHORAL

A Book of Elegies (1995)

unaccompanied SATB chorus

Duration 10 minutes

Text: Anon, Nahum Tate, R.G., Playford & Dryden (English)

Commissioned by the BBC

FP: 23.6.95, Spitalfields Festival, London: Tallis Scholars/Peter Phillips

0-571-55532-2 on sale (fp)

Far from home (1993)

a lullaby for large unaccompanied SATB chorus

Duration 6 minutes

Text: various folk sources (English)

Commissioned by the Crouch End Festival Chorus

FP: 16.10.93, All Hallow's Church, Gospel Oak, London: Crouch End Festival Chorus/

David Temple

0-571-55425-3 on sale (fp)

Little Walserings (1999)

SATB chorus and strings

Duration 6 minutes

Text: Robert Walser (English)

Commissioned by the BBC

FP: 19.11.99, St John's, Smith Square, London: BBC Singers/Symphony of Harmony

and Invention/Harry Christophers

Vocal score (fp) 0-571-56459-3 on sale, full score and parts for hire

Far from home

"... wistful ... the lullaby itself proved to be a

melodious contribution to the neo-romantic

English choral tradition of gentle gravitas and

cool harmony. Woolrich's text, sewn together out

of folksong scraps from remote corners of Europe,

ranges through darker regions of sleep and

dreaming than many lullabies care to explore. The

unaccompanied choral writing also wanders

somewhat from one musical incident or idea to

the next, rocking and musing but then a certain

aimlessness is implicit in the lullaby idiom."

Ham & High (Antonia Denford) 22.10.93

Little Walserings

"Little Walserings should prove a useful,

practical addition to the surprisingly small

repertoire of music for chorus and strings."

Tempo (Anthony Burton) January 2000

The Old Year (1999)

SATB chorus and chamber orchestra

Duration 7 minutes

Text: Horace (English)

2.2.ca.0.2.cbsn - 0.3.btpt.2.btrbn.cbtrbn.0 - harp - strings (vla & vlc only)

Commissioned by the Britten Sinfonia with funds from the BBC, Arts for Everyone and Sounds New

FP: 26.2.99, Chelmsford Cathedral: BBC Singers/Britten Sinfonia/Nicholas Cleobury
Score, chorus and orchestral parts for hire

Over the Sea (1993)

five songs for small unaccompanied SATB chorus

Duration 6 minutes

Text: Turkish folk poetry (English)

Commissioned by the Elysian Singers

FP: 14.6.94, Purcell Room, London: Elysian Singers/Matthew Greenall
0-571-55426-1 on sale (fp)

Paradise (2000)

unaccompanied SATB choir

Duration 5 minutes

Text: Herbert (English)

FP: 14.5.00, Gray's Inn Chapel, London: Chapel Choir/Christopher Bowers-Broadbent
On special sale from the Hire Library

The Rolling Years (2000)

chorus and orchestra

Duration 11 minutes

Text: translations of Horace by Herrick, Oldham & Smart (English)

2.1.ca.1.bcl.1.cbsn - 4230 - harp - strings

Commissioned by the Brighton Festival

FP: 18.5.00, Brighton Festival: BBC Singers/Brighton Festival Chorus/
BBC Concert Orchestra/James Morgan
Score, vocal score and parts for hire

Spring in Winter (2001)

unaccompanied SATB chorus

Duration 3 minutes

Text: Smart (English)

Commissioned by King's College, Cambridge, for the Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols 2001

FP: 24.12.01, King's College, Cambridge: Choir of King's College/Stephen Cleobury
On special sale from the Hire Library

Three Choruses (1998)

unaccompanied SATB chorus

Duration 7 minutes

Text: Smart & Horace (English)

Score on sale (fp), in preparation

A Hymn Against Despair (1998)

Duration 2 minutes

Commissioned by the Norfolk and Norwich Festival

FP: 14.10.98, Norfolk and Norwich Festival: Keswick Hall Choir/John Aplin

A Hymn on Melancholy (1997)

Duration 4 minutes

FP: 9.7.97, Basilica of St Francis Assisi, Italy: Boys' Choir of Westminster Under School/Jeremy Walker

The Years Glide Swiftly (1998)

After J.S. Bach

unaccompanied SATB chorus

Duration 1 minute

FP: 26.2.99, Chelmsford Cathedral: BBC Singers

The Rolling Years

Texts from Horace

The image shows a page of musical notation for 'The Rolling Years'. It features multiple staves for SATB voices and a piano accompaniment. The score includes tempo markings such as '♩ = 52' and '♩ = 63', and dynamic markings like 'pp', 'p', and 'mf'. The lyrics are: 'Our years hence flye, And leave no'. The notation is in a standard Western musical style with a key signature of one flat and a common time signature.

CHAMBER ENSEMBLE

Ariadne Laments (1994)

After Monteverdi

soprano and five strings

Duration 8 minutes

Text: Ottavio Rinuccini (Italian)

2 vln.tenor vln.bass vln.violone or 2 vln.vla.vlc.db or string section

FP: 24.9.94, Duisburg Festival, Germany: Danielle Forget/Taverner Players/
Andrew Parrott

Score (fp) 0-571-55607-8 on sale, parts for hire

Barcarolle (1989)

chamber ensemble of six players

Duration 10 minutes

afl(=fl+picc).ob - harp - perc(1): 3 steel drums/rototoms/BD/tam-t/hi-hat - vln.vlc

FP: 20.4.89, St John's, Smith Square, London: Uroboros/Gwyn Pritchard

Score and parts for hire

Berceuse (1990)

soprano and chamber ensemble of five players

Duration 7 minutes

Text: Folksongs from Cornwall, the Isle of Man, Lithuania & Serbia (English)

afl.ob.cl(=bcl) - vla.vlc - sop(= 2 tuned gongs)

FP: 14.4.90, Alderley, Cheshire: Mary Wiegold/Composers Ensemble/John Woolrich

Score (fp) 0-571-55385-0 on sale, parts for hire

Black Riddle (1984)

five songs for soprano and large chamber ensemble

Duration 9 minutes

Text: Anon (English)

1011 - 2000 - perc(2): 4 spring coils/2 tam-t/BD - harp - strings (3 vln.3 vla.2 vlc.2 db)

FP: 8.9.84, St Paul's Church, Covent Garden, London: Mary Wiegold/Covent Garden
Chamber Orchestra/Richard Dickens

Score and parts for hire

Caprichos (1997)

chamber ensemble of twelve players

Duration 7 minutes

picc(=afl).Ebcl(=bcl).ssax - hn.tpt.trbn - perc(1): mar/BD/tam-t/2 Peking Opera

gongs - pno - vln.vla.vlc.db

FP: 7.5.97, Purcell Room, London: Cambridge New Music Players/Paul Hoskins

Score (fp) 0-571-56336-8 on sale, parts for hire

Cascades (1983)

soprano and chamber ensemble of five players

Duration 10 minutes

Text: Italian folk poems (English)

cl(=metronome) - perc(1): BD/metronome/hi-hat/2 wdbl/jaw harp/duck call -

pno(=whistle) - vln.vlc - soprano(=claves)

FP: 26.1.84, Peoples Theatre, Newcastle: Eisler Ensemble/Michelle Todd

Score and parts for hire

Cutting a Caper (2001)

large ensemble

Duration 15 minutes

Solo group: ob.cl(=bcl) - tpt - vln.vlc

Ensemble: 2222 - 0210 - perc(1): BD/2 congas/log drum/wood drum/tam-t - strings

Commissioned by Birmingham Music Services and BCMG

FP: 20.10.01, CBSO Centre, Birmingham: Birmingham Music Service Students/
Birmingham Contemporary Music Group/Peter Wiegold

Score and parts for hire

Dartington Doubles (1988)

chamber ensemble of ten players

Duration 5 minutes

afl.ssax - hn.tpt - perc(1): boobams/BD - pno - vln.vla.vlc

Commissioned by the BBC to celebrate Sir William Glock's 80th Birthday

FP: 10.4.88, BBC Concert Hall, London: London Sinfonietta/Elgar Howarth

Score (fp) 0-571-55625-6 on sale, parts for hire

Barcarolle

"... a string of tunes for flute, violin, oboe and cello. Each tune turned modally around a tonic note and was exotically accompanied by the irregular processional tread of harp, soft bass drum, soft gong or clicking cymbal rim: a personal evocation of Eastern sounds."

The Independent (Meredith Oakes) 22.4.89

"It is a piece to confirm Woolrich's command of what is becoming very much his own sure but deliberately blurred style, entrancing and cool."

The Times (Paul Griffiths) 22.4.89



Envoi (1997)*viola and small ensemble*

Duration 8 minutes

afl.bcl - perc(1): mar/log drums/BD - pno - vln.vlc

FP: 17.6.97, Henry Wood Hall, London: Paul Silverthorne & ensemble/Rupert Bawden

Score 0-571-51927-X on sale, parts for hire

From the Shadow (1994)*five pieces for eleven players*

Duration 7 minutes

fl(=picc+afl).cl(=Ebcl+bcl).ssax - hn.tpt - pno - perc(1): 12 tin cans/4 car wheels/

2 brakedrums/anvil/hi-hat/8 scaffold bars/3 scaffold feet - vln.vla.vlc.db

FP: 10.8.94, Dartington Summer School: Composers Ensemble/Diego Masson

Score (fp) 0-571-55642-6 on sale, parts for hire

Harlequinade (1983)*soprano and chamber ensemble of four players*

Duration 12 minutes

Text: Commedia dell'Arta sources (English)

sop(=claves/small drum/bamboo chimes/ant.cym) - cl(=bcl) - pno(=2 wdbl/whistle)

- vln.vlc

Commissioned by the Washington Arts Centre with funds from Northern Arts

FP: 10.5.84, Washington Arts Centre, Tyne & Wear: Lontano/Elaine Barry

Score (fp) 0-571-55389-3 and parts (fp) 0-571-55394-X on sale

 Lending Wings (1989)*chamber ensemble of sixteen players*

Duration 14 minutes

1.1.1.1(=cbns) - 1110 - perc(2): 2 tam-t/12 tpl.bl/12 c.bells/2 hi-hat/2 log drums/

2 BD+foot ped - harp - pno - 2 vln.vla.vlc.db

Commissioned by Birmingham Contemporary Music Group

FP: 21.10.89, Adrian Boulton Hall, Birmingham: BCMG/Oliver Knussen

Score (fp) 0-571-55628-0 on sale, parts for hire

Malicious Observer (1995)*soprano and chamber ensemble of five players*

Duration 3 minutes

Text: Elvis Costello (English)

2 cl.vla.vlc.db

FP: 14.7.96, Almeida Theatre, London: Mary Wiegold/Composers Ensemble/

Richard Armstrong

Score and parts for hire

(For smaller versions, see under Chamber and Vocal)

Music from a House of Crossed Desires (1996)*chamber ensemble of fourteen players*

Duration 8 minutes

picc(=hand bell).ob.Ebcl(=ssax+cl).bcl.cbsn - 1(=whistle).1(=whistle).1.1 - perc(2):

BD/crot/10 tin cans/2 tpl.bl/whistle/gongs/tam-t/susp.cym/ped BD/guero/

log drum/claves/whip/hand bell - pno(=whistle) - vlc.db

FP: 5.1.97, Purcell Room, London: Brunel Ensemble/Christopher Austin

Score 0-571-52042-1 on sale, parts for hire

 Spalanzani's Daughter (1983)*chamber ensemble of eight players*

Duration 10 minutes

fl(=picc).ob.Ebcl(=bcl).bsn(=cbns) - hn.tpt.trbn.tuba

Commissioned by the BBC

FP: 7.3.86, St John's, Smith Square, London: Lontano/Odaline de la Martinez

Score (fp) 0-571-55630-2 on sale, parts for hire

Stealing a March (2000)*chamber ensemble of seventeen players*

Duration 7 minutes

1(=picc).1.0.Ebcl.1 - 2110 - perc(2): taiko/susp.cym/hi-hat/ch.cym/sleigh bells/

tam-t/tin cans - pno - harp - 2 vln.vla.vlc.db

Commissioned by the Britten Sinfonia

FP: 9.2.01, Corn Exchange, Cambridge: Britten Sinfonia/Rumon Gamba

Full score and parts for hire

The image shows a page of musical notation for the piece 'From the Shadow'. It features eight staves for different instruments: A. Fl., B. Cl., Mar., Pno., Vla., Vln., and Vc. The notation includes various dynamics such as *ff* and *p*, and performance instructions like *arco* and *pizz.* The score is written in a standard musical notation style with clefs, notes, rests, and bar lines.

From the Shadow

"... a highly physical little suite in five movements exploiting the resources of junkyard percussion, proved a seductive interlude ..."

The Birmingham Post (Terry Grimley) 31.1.00

"John Woolrich's brilliantly imagined five miniatures **From the Shadow** completed a rich evening."

Financial Times (Stephen Pettitt) 1.2.00

Lending Wings

"... not just accomplished in technique but models of unfussy, strongly characterized musical thinking."

Gramophone (Arnold Whittall) October 1996

"This quirky, allusive music reveals a world of spare though occasionally violent gestures ... the effect is eerie and unsettling ..."

Classic CD (Andy Hamilton) August 1996

Music from a House of Crossed Desires

"With the short fantasy drawn by John Woolrich from his 1996 chamber opera **In the House of Crossed Desires**, the return was made to the sphere of the grotesque, with chiming clocks, crashing pots and pans, braying clarinets and growling tuba."

The Times (Barry Millington) 7.1.97

"... [it] compresses his recent opera of similar name into a mere eight minutes with perfectly explosive force."

The Sunday Times (Paul Driver) 11.1.97

Stone Dances (1980)*chamber ensemble of eight players*

Duration 8 minutes

fl(=picc).ob.cl(=bcl).bsn - hn.tpt.trbn - db

FP: 12.7.80, York University: Lontano/Peter Wiegold

Score (fp) 0-571-55631-0 on sale, parts for hire

Suite from Bitter Fruit (2002)*chamber ensemble*

Duration 20 minutes

fl(=afl + picc).ob.cl(=bcl).ssax.bsn(=cbsn) - hn.tpt.2 trbn.fba - perc (2): 2 tam-t/2 BD/

SD/2 whips/anvil/flexatone/car wheel/2 Peking Opera gongs/2 hi-hat/2

susp.cym/ 2 small crash cym/5 tuned gongs/10 tin cans/dustbin/

wdbl/cuica/mil.dr/rattle/ thunder sheet/2 spring coils - vln.vla.vlc.db

FP: 15.3.03, Queen Elizabeth Hall, London: London Sinfonietta/Thomas Adès

Score and parts for hire

Three Cautionary Tales (1990–94)*soprano and chamber ensemble of five players*

Total duration 8 minutes

(Voice & piano version also available, see under Vocal)

The Turkish Mouse (1990)

Duration 2 minutes

Text: Turkish folk poem (English)

ssax.bcl - vla.vlc.db

FP: 13.5.89, Brighton Festival: Mary Wiegold/Composers Ensemble/John Woolrich

Score (fp) 0-571-55393-1 on sale, parts for hire

The North Wind (1994)

Duration 4 minutes

Text: English folk poem (English)

ssax.cl - vla.vlc.db

FP: 5.11.94, Oxford Contemporary Music Festival: Mary Wiegold/

Composers Ensemble/Thomas Adès

Score and parts for hire

Poor Mr Snail (1992)

Duration 2 minutes

Text: Macedonian folk poem (English)

cl.bcl - vla.vlc.db

FP: 12.8.92, Dartington: Mary Wiegold/Composers Ensemble/Diego Masson

Score and parts for hire

Three Macedonian Songs (1984)*soprano and chamber ensemble of seven players*

Duration 6 minutes

Text: Macedonian folk poems (English)

cl - pno - tam-t - vln.vla.vlc.db

FP: 30.11.84, Durham University: Mary Wiegold/Student Ensemble/John Woolrich

Score (fp) 0-571-55395-8 on sale, parts for hire

To witness her Goodbye (1995)**After Monteverdi***tenor and chamber ensemble of seven players*

Duration 8 minutes

Text: Striggio (Italian)

ssax.2 chitaroni.bass viol.regal.cel(=chamberorg) - perc(1): 11 tuned gongs/2 tam-t/BD/waterphone

FP: 20.11.95, BBC recording: Charles Daniels/Taverner Players/Andrew Parrott

Score (fp) 0-571-55847-X on sale, parts for hire

The Way Out Discovered (1997)*wind ensemble of thirteen players*

Duration 7 minutes

2 ob.Ebcl.cl.2 basset horn.2 bsn.cbsn - 4 hn

Commissioned by the Brighton Festival

FP: 5.5.97, Brighton Festival: Collegiate Winds/David Campbell

Score (fp) 0-571-56337-6 on sale, parts for hire

The image displays a page of a musical score for a chamber ensemble. It features multiple staves for various instruments: Piccolo, Oboe, English Clarinet, Bassoon, Horns (1 and 2), Trumpets, Trombones, Percussion (with a note for 'Tin cans'), Harp, Piano, Violins (I and II), Viola, Cello, and Double Bass. The score includes dynamic markings such as *ff* and *f*, and a rehearsal mark 'D' is present at the beginning of the section. The notation is in a standard musical format with clefs, time signatures, and notes.

CHAMBER

Adagissimo (1997)

piano quartet

Duration 8 minutes

FP: 11.3.97, BBC Pebble Mill, Birmingham: Composers Ensemble

Piano score and parts (fp) 0-571-56334-1 on sale

A Book of Studies Set 1 (1993)

wind quintet

Duration 10 minutes

Commissioned by the Junior Department of the Royal Academy of Music

FP: 27.6.93, Purcell Room, London: Royal Academy of Music Junior Department

Score (fp) 0-571-55620-5 and parts (fp) 0-571-55621-3 on sale

A Book of Studies Set 2 (1993)

wind quintet

Duration 10 minutes

fl(=afl+picc).ob(=ca).cl(=bcl).bsn(=cbsn).hn

Commissioned by Portobello Concerts for the Aeolian Wind Ensemble

FP: 1.10.93, St Peter's Church, Notting Hill, London: Aeolian Wind Ensemble

Score (fp) 0-571-55622-1 and parts (fp) 0-571-55623-X on sale

A Cabinet of Curiosities (1993)

piano and wind quartet

Duration 10 minutes

ob.cl.bsn.hn - pno

Commissioned by Quintus with funds from South West Arts

FP: 22.4.94, St George's, Brandon Hill, Bristol: Quintus

Score (fp) 0-571-55624-8 on sale, parts for hire

Contredanse (1991)

string octet

Duration 15 minutes

4 vln.2 vla.2 vlc

Commissioned by the Academy of St Martin-in-the-Fields with funds provided by the Arts Council of Great Britain

FP: 18.3.91, Opéra Comique, Paris, France: Academy of St Martin-in-the Fields

Score (fp) 0-571-55547-0 on sale, parts for hire

The Death of King Renaud (1991)

string quintet

Duration 12 minutes

2 vln.2 vla.vlc

Commissioned by the Rosehill Theatre with funds provided by Northern Arts

FP: 19.10.91, Rosehill Theatre, Whitehaven: Iris Juda/Allegri Quartet

Score (fp) 0-571-55548-9 on sale, parts for hire

Exploit in White (2001)

brass quintet

Duration 14 minutes

Commissioned by the Fine Arts Brass Ensemble with funds from South West Arts, the PRS Foundation and the Ralph Vaughan Williams Trust

FP: 11.1.02, Minehead Music Club, Somerset: Fine Arts Brass Ensemble

Score and parts for hire

Fantazia (1994)

four viols

Duration 5 minutes

treble viol.2 tenor viols.bass viol

Commissioned by the South Bank Centre to mark the tercentenary of the death of Henry Purcell

FP: 2.5.95, Purcell Room, London: Fretwork

Score (fp) 0-571-55610-8 and (fp) 0-571-55632-9 on sale

The Death of King Renaud

"Pragmatic and scrunchy, mostly tonal and homophonic and free of allegiance to any particular dogma, Woolrich's *The Death of King Renaud* mused upon an old Norman folk song with Iris Judah slipping in and out of focus as solo viola. An imaginative score which I would have liked to hear again."

Evening Standard (Christopher Grier) 5.11.91

"Woolrich's quintet spins elegant variations on its theme, neatly framing them with a long-held note that relapses into a stutter, and an opening that dresses up the folk melody in a florid, chant-like unison. A family resemblance with the medieval hymn 'Ave Maris Stella' becomes clear in the final pages through a witty quotation from Monteverdi's 'Vespers'. The humour, scherzando yet never lightweight, reflects a composer of serious thoughts with a genuine lightness of touch."

The Independent (Nicholas Williams) 7.11.91



□ A Farewell (1992)

chamber ensemble of three players

Duration 10 minutes

cl.vla.pno

Commissioned by Dartington Arts with funds provided by South West Arts

FP: 31.5.92, Dartington Great Hall, Devon: Ireland Trio

Score and parts 0-571-51765-X on sale

Favola in Musica I (1990)

After Monteverdi's madrigal 'O sia tranquillo il mare'

chamber ensemble of three players

Duration 8 minutes

ob.cl.pno

Commissioned by Nicholas Daniel

FP: 17.7.90, Cheltenham Festival: Nicholas Daniel/Julius Drake/Joy Farrall

Playing score (fp) 0-571-55626-4 on sale

Favola in Musica II (1992)

After Monteverdi's madrigal 'O sia tranquillo il mare'

chamber ensemble of three players

Duration 8 minutes

ob.ssax.perc(1): 7 Thai Gongs/bell plate/steel pan/2 tam-t/2 spring coils

FP: 17.4.92, BBC Maida Vale, London: Melinda Maxwell/John Harle/Simon Limbrick

Playing score (fp) 0-571-55627-2 on sale

From the Book of Disquiet (2001)

music for counter-tenor, oboe and viols

Total duration 17 minutes

Score and parts on special sale from the Hire Library

Three Arias (2001)

for oboe and six viols

Duration 4 minutes

FP: 2.11.01, St Mary in the Castle, Hastings: Nicholas Daniel/Fretwork

Three Capriccios (2001)

for oboe

Duration 5 minutes

FP: 2.11.01, St Mary in the Castle, Hastings: Nicholas Daniel/Fretwork

Three Fantasias (2001)

for six viols

Duration 3 minutes

FP: 24.5.02 ENSEMS Contemporary Music Festival, Valencia, Spain: Fretwork

Three Songs (2001)

for alto and six viols or piano

Duration 5 minutes

Text: Fernando Pessoa (English)

FP (alto & six viols): 12.8.02, Radovjica, Slovenia: Catherine King/Fretwork

FP (alto & piano): Jan 03, Perth International Chamber Music Festival, Australia:

Derek Lee Ragin/Julius Drake

The iron cockerel sings (1998)

wind sextet

Duration 10 minutes

fl(=picc+af).ob(=ca).cl.bcl.hn.bsn(=cbsn)

FP: 27.7.98, BBC Proms, Victoria & Albert Museum, London: London Winds

Score and parts for hire

Light and Rock (1988)

soprano, basset horn and piano

Duration 8 minutes

Text: Serbian folk poems (English)

FP: 7.9.88, Ilkley Festival, W. Yorkshire: Mary Wiegold/Alan Hacker/Andrew Ball

Playing score (fp) 0-571-55390-7 on sale

Favola in Musica I

"More than a 'story in music', it was a story about music, using a cadence from a Monteverdi madrigal to wander through musical history as far as Mozart, Wagner and (less identifiably) Nono. Beautifully made ..."

The Times (Paul Griffiths) 20.7.90

Favola in Musica II

"John Woolrich's *Favola in Musica II*, a 'retelling' of the madrigal 'O sia tranquillo il mare' by saxophone, oboe, and percussion, explored a Monteverdian speciality: two-voice twinning now imitative, then in step; now in poignantly pressed discord, then in chains of sweet euphony. And it explores the eloquent gestures and emotional tensions of the word-inspired melody divorced from the text."

The Observer (Andrew Porter) January 1994

The image shows a page of a musical score for Favola in Musica I. It features six staves for different instruments: Flute (Fl.), Oboe (Ob.), Clarinet (Cl.), Bass Clarinet (B. Cl.), Horn (Hn.), and Bassoon (Bsn.). The music is written in 3/8 time and includes a 'fff' (fortissimo) dynamic marking. The page number 68 is visible at the top left of the score.

Malicious Observer (1995)*soprano and chamber ensemble of three players*

Duration 3 minutes

Text: Elvis Costello (English)

vln.vlc.pno

FP: June 96, Meltdown Festival, London: Mary Wiegold/Composers Ensemble

*Score and parts for hire**(Version for soprano & piano also available, see under Vocal)***My box of Phantoms (1995)***oboe quartet*

Duration 5 minutes

ob.vln.vla.vlc

FP: 30.4.95, Jackson's Lane Arts Centre, London: Composers Ensemble

*Score (fp) 0-571-55755-4 and parts (fp) 0-571-55757-0 on sale***Oboe Quintet (1997–98)**

Duration 20 minutes

Commissioned by Leicester International Music Festival with support from East

Midlands Arts and Leicester City Council

FP: 20.6.98, Leicester International Music Festival: Nicholas Daniel/Festival Ensemble

*Score 0-571-51966-0 and parts (fp) 0-571-56523-9 on sale***Brahms: Ophelia Songs (trans. 1988)***voice and chamber ensemble*

Duration 5 minutes

Text: Shakespeare, trans. Schlegel & Tieck (German)

2 cl - vla.vlc.db

FP: 13.9.89, Ilkley Festival, W. Yorkshire: Mary Wiegold/Composers Ensemble/

Dominic Muldowney

*Score 0-571-51455-3 on sale, parts for hire***A Presence of Departed Acts (2002)***clarinet, violin, cello and piano*

Duration 10 minutes

Commissioned by Patricia Mirrlees for Sir James Mirrlees

FP: 25.5.02, Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge: Katherine Spencer/Alexandra Wood/

Zöe Martlew/Huw Watkins

*Score and parts for hire***Quick Steps (1990)***wind octet*

Duration 6 minutes

2 ob.Ebcl.cl.2 bsn.2 hn

Commissioned by Nicholas Daniel

FP: 21.10.90, St Mary's Church, East Bergholt, Suffolk: Haffner Wind Ensemble

*Score (fp) 0-571-55629-9 on sale, parts for hire***Serbian Songs (1984)***soprano, clarinet and percussion*

Duration 6 minutes

Text: Serbian folk poems (English)

perc (1): sistrum/siz.cym/hi-hat/BD/crot/large spring coil/cuica

FP: 26.1.86, Christ's College, Liverpool: Mary Wiegold/Gemini

*Score and parts (fp) 0-571-55391-5 on sale***Sestina (1997)***piano quartet*

Duration 12 minutes

Commissioned by the Schubert Ensemble

FP: 9.7.97, Lichfield Festival: Schubert Ensemble

*Score (fp) 0-571-55854-2 on sale, parts for hire***A Shadowed Lesson (1999)***chamber ensemble of five players*

Duration 12 minutes

pno - vln.vla.vlc.db

Commissioned by the Schubert Ensemble

FP: 3.2.00, Wigmore Hall, London: Schubert Ensemble

*Score and parts for hire***Oboe Quintet**

"... exquisite ... this first London performance revealed the composers highly cultured ear for mood and colour ... it has all the nocturnal mystery of Schoenberg's 'Verklärte Nacht', with none of the rhetoric or urgency of that piece, preferring a mood of contemplation and nuance. Moments of rhapsody alternated with slow chorale figures and, near the end, a dozen bright chimes of midnight. The end came too soon. How often can that be said of a new piece?"

The Observer (Fiona Maddocks) 28.6.98

A Presence of Departed Acts

"The initial eleven resounding piano chords are recalled throughout the work, sometimes in sorrow, sometimes in anger. The result is an emotionally rewarding piece encompassing the gamut of grieving, from the tranquility of private lamentation to raw uncomprehending rage."

The Independent (Paul Conway) 29.5.02

STILLEST NIGHT
♩ = 56

Ob.
Vln I
Vln II
Vla
Vc.

Sestina

"The ear, drawn into the atmosphere by the strings, was initially in fear of inappropriate sound from the piano, but the gentle chord clusters associated with its first entry were reassuringly in place. The poetry was sustained to the end, passing through formative but only vaguely defined allusions to music by other composers (helpfully defined by Woolrich as Debussy, Schubert, Beethoven, Schumann and Stravinsky) to a fairly clear echo of the Monteverdi madrigal which not only gave the work its name, but which also fitted it so convincingly to the scene of its first performance."

The Times (Gerald Larner) 17.7.97

Songs and Broken Music (1993)

soprano and chamber ensemble of three players

Duration 5 minutes

Text: Elvis Costello (English)

vln.vlc.pno

Commissioned by the Chamber Music Company with funds from the Arts Council

FP: 26.6.93, Conway Hall, London: Patricia Rozario/Chamber Music Company

Score and parts for hire

String Quartet No 1 (1995)

Duration 12 minutes

Commissioned by Royal Holloway, University of London for its 10th anniversary

FP: 28.1.96, Royal Holloway, London: Emperor String Quartet

Score (fp) 0-571-55759-7 and parts (fp) 0-571-55841-0 on sale

String Quartet No 2 (2000)

Duration 16 minutes

Commissioned by the Schidlof Quartet with funds from East Midlands Arts

FP: 13.10.00, Leicester: Schidlof Quartet

Score and parts for hire

String Trio (1996)

Duration 6 minutes

Commissioned by the Bournemouth Festival

FP: 20.5.96, Bournemouth Festival: Composers Ensemble

Score and parts (fp) 0-571-55842-9 on sale

Toward the black sky (1997)

piano trio

Duration 10 minutes

Commissioned by the Machynlleth Festival with funds from the Arts Council of Wales and the Machynlleth Tabernacle Trust

FP: 28.8.97, Machynlleth Festival: Joachim Piano Trio

Piano score and parts (fp) 0-571-56338-4 on sale

Watermark (2002)

violin and bass clarinet

Duration 10 minutes

Commissioned by the Internationale Fredener Musiktage

FP: 9.8.02, Freden, Germany: Adrian Adlam/Peter Cornish

Playing score on special sale from the Hire Library



BRASS & WIND BAND

Fanfare (1993)

brass and percussion

Duration 4 minutes

4 hn.3 tpt.3 trbn.tuba - timp - perc(2): BD/tam-t/hi-hat

FP: 6.3.94, Lancaster University: Manchester Camerata/Denis McCauldin

Score and parts (fp) 0-571-55336-2 on sale

Fanfare (1994)

brass band

Duration 4 minutes

scrt.4 solo crt.rcrt.2 crt.flhn.3 hn.2 bar.2 euph.3 trbn.2 Eb tuba.2 BBb tuba - timp - perc(2): 2 BD/tam-t/hi-hat

FP: 4.7.94, Barbican Centre, London: Junior Guildhall Brass Band/John Clark

Score and parts (fp) 0-571-56257-4 on sale

Sennets and Tuckets (1997-98)

symphonic wind band

Duration 15 minutes

picc.2 fl.2 ob.Ebcl.3 cl.bcl.2 asax.tsax.bsax.2 bsn.cbsn - 4 hn.2 tpt.3 crt.2 trbn.btrbn.

euph.tuba - timp - perc(2) : 2 SD/2 hi-hat/2 tgl/2 sleigh bells/2 BD/BD+ped/tam-t

Commissioned by the College Consortium

FP: 7.5.98, St James' Church, Paddington, London: TCM Wind Band/Jeffrey Bryant

Score and parts (fp) 0-571-56448-8 on sale



Piano

The Little Piano Book (1992–95)

solo piano

Duration 8 minutes

Easier extracts from Pianobooks

0-571-51803-6 on sale

Locus Solus (1998)

solo piano

Duration 12 minutes

On special sale from the Hire Library

□ Pianobooks I–IX (1991-2002)

solo piano

Total duration c. 57 minutes

Thomas Adès, Andrew Ball, Martin Butler, Catherine Edwards, Stephen Gutman,

Joanna MacGregor, Ian Munro and Charles Rosen have all premiered *Pianobooks*

Each Pianobook and piece within a Pianobook is performable separately

Pianobooks I-VII 0-571-51868-0 & Pianobook VIII 0-571-56454-2 (fp) on sale,

Pianobook IX in preparation

Pianobook I Duration 6 ½ minutes

1. Take Wing, 2. The Gastrolaters' Final Sacrifice, 3. Envoy

Pianobook II Duration 7 minutes

1. Capvespres, 2. Vaux, 3. The chorale moves, 4. The hammered line

Pianobook III Duration 5 minutes

1. Five Gestures of Parting, 2. C Again, 3. Gismo, 4. Distant

Pianobook IV Duration 5 minutes

1. Liebeslied, 2. It is Midnight, 3. Hunter, 4. Over the Sea

Pianobook V Duration 5 ½ minutes

1. My box of Phantoms, 2. My Blue Peninsula, 3. promise and unfoldment,

4. An Image for 2 Emilies

Pianobook VI Duration 6 minutes

1. Slow - Night - that must be watched away, 2. Capricho, 3. Procession,

4. Little piano machine

Pianobook VII Duration 4 ½ minutes

1. all we see asleep is sleep, 2. Mildmay Road, 3. Castiglioni, 4. all we see awake is death

Pianobook VIII Duration 7 minutes

1. Andacht zum kleinen, 2. Carcolle, 3. After Rameau, 4. After Evesham

Pianobook IX Duration 10 minutes

1. After Bach I, 2. Night has come, 3. Violeta, 4. Shard, 5. Mercurial, 6. Wisp

Woodwind

Darker Still (2001)

flute and piano

Duration 14 minutes

Piano score and part on special sale from the Hire Library

Four Songs After Hoffmann (1981) *see under Vocal*

Keepsake (2000)

solo cor anglais

Duration 3 minutes

On special sale from the Hire Library

The Kingdom of Dreams (1989)

oboe and piano

Duration 9 minutes

Playing score 0-571-55313-3 (fp) on sale

A Sad Song (1999)

flute and piano

Duration 2 minutes

0-571-51915-6 on sale as part of Unbeaten Tracks

Joanna MacGregor

"Like all the most interesting composers, John Woolrich's work is a kaleidoscopic mixture: of spiky wit, lightness, dark menace, on canvasses that are hugely ambitious or delicately miniature. Like one of his anecdotes, I would never predict how a Woolrich piece will unfold; he's the master of surprise and variation. I've premiered some of the pieces from his *Pianobooks*, a wonderful collection of dramatic vignettes all with beguiling titles (Five Gestures of Parting, The Gastrolaters' Final Sacrifice), some no more than 20 bars in length, often sparse in notes but deep in atmosphere, undeniably modern but with the ghosts of the past tiptoeing through them."

Pianobooks

"They have a lyric essence yet withhold the lyrical act. They are miniatures without a trace of epigram. They are wind chimes, brought to life by mysterious currents, and listeners find their own feelings echoed in the sounds."

The Independent (Nicholas Williams)

for Catherine Edwards
Pianobook V
V / 1. My box of Phantoms

Capriccioso ♩ = 132

Scherzando

The Turkish Mouse (1988)

oboe and piano
Duration 4 minutes
Playing score (fp) 0-571-55314-1 on sale

Strings

Cantilena (2000)

cello and piano
Duration 3 minutes
0-571-51976-8 on sale as part of Unbeaten Tracks

Elegy (2001)

cello and piano
Duration 7 minutes
Piano score and part (fp) 0-571-56641-3 on sale

Four Pieces for Cello and Piano (1994)

cello and piano
Duration 8 minutes
Piano score and part (fp) 0-571-55302-8 on sale

Im ruhigen Tal (1993)

violin and piano
Duration 8 minutes
Piano score and part (fp) 0-571-55730-9 on sale

Midnight Song (1999)

violin and piano
Duration 3 minutes
0-571-51914-8 on sale as part of Unbeaten Tracks

... that is Night (1995)

violin and piano
Duration 5 minutes
Playing score on special sale from the Hire Library

Three Pieces for Viola (1993)

solo viola
Duration 6 minutes
0-571-55287-0 (fp) on sale

Three Pieces for Violin (2000–1)

solo violin
Duration 8 minutes
On special sale from the Hire Library

Through a Limbeck (2002)

solo viola
Duration 6 minutes
On special sale from the Hire Library

... with Land in Sight ... (1994)

solo cello
Duration 2 minutes
0-571-55848-8 (fp) on sale

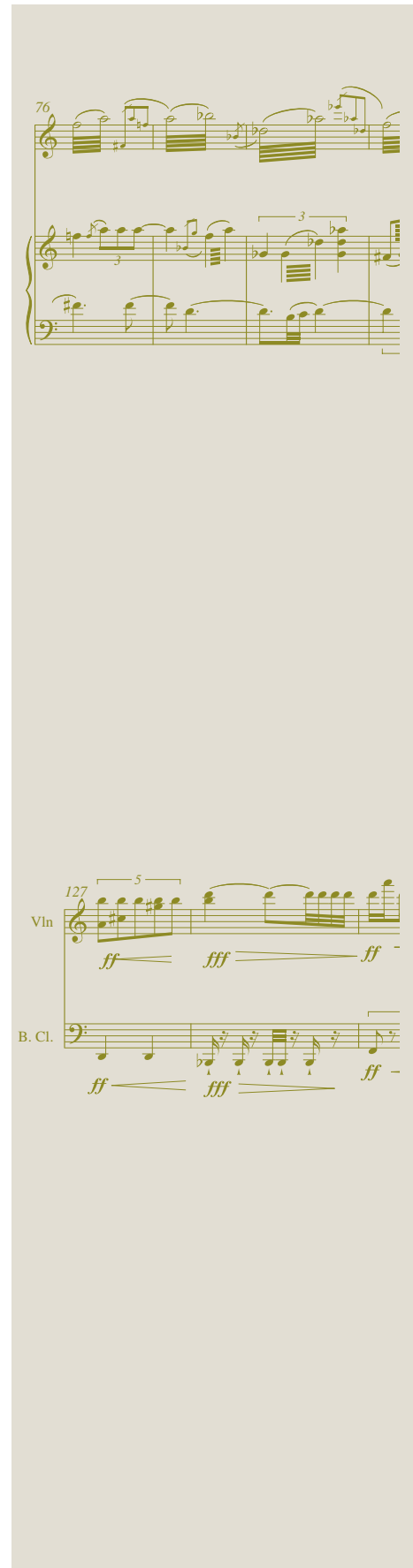
Other

Dum Spiro, Spero (2001)

solo accordion
Duration 10 minutes
Score on special sale from the Hire Library

Prologue & Canzonetta (2001)

trumpet and piano
Duration 2 minutes
0-571-52005-7 on sale as part of Unbeaten Tracks



Ariadne Laments *see under Chamber Ensemble*

Berceuse *see under Chamber Ensemble*

Black Riddle *see under Chamber Ensemble*

Cascades *see under Chamber Ensemble*

Five Italian Songs (1984)

voice and piano

Duration 10 minutes

Text: Italian folk poems (English)

Score on special sale from the Hire Library

Four Concert Arias *see under Chamber Orchestra*

Four Songs After Hoffmann (1981)

soprano and clarinet

Duration 9 minutes

Text: ETA Hoffmann (English)

sop(=c.bells/2 metronomes/bamboo chimes/tabor/ant.cym/nightingale) -

cl(=Ebcl+Ccl+bcl)

Playing score (fp) 0-571-55388-5 on sale

Good Morning– Midnight– (2002)

voice and piano

Duration 8 minutes

Text: Alain-Fournier, de Nerval, Wölfl, Walser, Dickinson (English)

Score on special sale from the Hire Library

Harlequinade *see under Chamber Ensemble*

Here is my Country (1995)

four songs for soprano and piano

Duration 6 minutes

Text: de Quincey, de Nerval, Schumann & H.C. Andersen (English)

Score (fp) 0-571-55660-4 on sale

La Cantarina (1989)

scena for high soprano and piano

Duration 9 minutes

Text: Shapcott & Verlaine (English)

Score 0-571-55387-7 on sale

Light and Rock *see under Chamber*

Malicious Observer (1995)

soprano and piano

Duration 3 minutes

Text: Elvis Costello (English)

Score on special sale from the Hire Library

(For ensemble versions, see also under Chamber and Chamber Ensemble)

Three Cautionary Tales (1990–94)

soprano and piano

Duration 8 minutes

Text: English, Macedonian & Turkish folk poems (English)

Score 0-571-51686-6 on sale

The North Wind (1994)

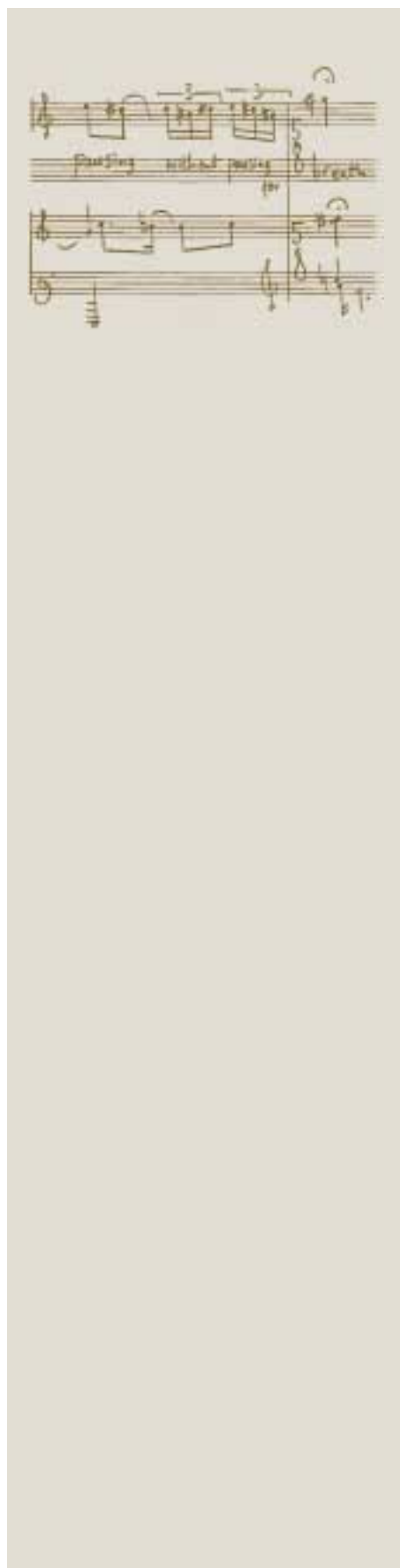
Duration 4 minutes

Poor Mr Snail (1992)

Duration 2 minutes

The Turkish Mouse (1990)

Duration 2 minutes



Three Macedonian Songs (1984) *see under Chamber Ensemble*

To witness her Goodbye (1995) *see under Chamber Ensemble*

Twisting that Lock (1997)

soprano, alto and piano

Duration 4 minutes

Text: Robert Walser & Laurence Sterne (English)

Score 0-571-56444-5 (*fp*) on sale

The Unlit Suburbs (1998)

three songs for soprano and piano

Duration 4 minutes

Text: Matthew Sweeney (English)

Score on special sale from the Hire Library



DISCOGRAPHY

The Ghost in the Machine; The Barber's Timepiece; Oboe Concerto; Viola Concerto

Nicholas Daniel/Lars Anders Tomter/BBC Symphony Orchestra/Martyn Brabbins

NMC Recordings NMC D071



Ulysses Awakes; It is Midnight, Dr Schweitzer; The Theatre Represents a Garden: Night; A Leap in the Dark; Four Concert Arias

Orchestra of St John's, Smith Square/John Lubbock

ASV CD DCA 1049



Lending Wings; Dartington Doubles; Berceuse; Lending Wings; Black Riddle; The Death of King Renaud; Spalanzani's Daughter A Farewell

Jane Atkins/Mary Wiegold/Composers Ensemble/Brodsky Quartet/Diego Masson

NMC Recordings NMC D029



Si va facendo notte

Mark van de Wiel/Chetham's Chamber Orchestra/Julian Clayton

Olympia OCD 484



From Pianobooks vols I, IV, V, VI

Ian Munro

Tall Poppies TP080



The Turkish Mouse

Mary Wiegold's Songbook

Mary Wiegold/The Composers Ensemble/Dominic Muldowney

NMC Recordings NMC D003

Three Pieces for Viola

Invocations

Paul Silverthorne

Black Box BBM 1058

After Rameau (from Piano book VIII)

Stephen Gutman

Metier MET CD 1052 (available summer 2002)

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