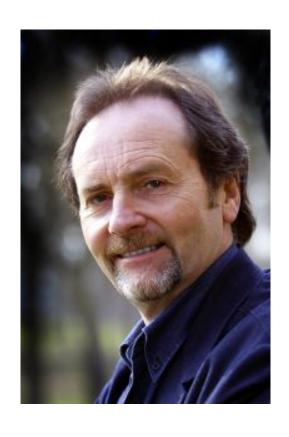
JOHN CASKEN



Composer Brochure



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This catalogue was created in January 2024. All durations are approximate.

CHRONOLOGY

1949	Born 15 July, Barnsley, South Yorkshire
1960-67	Educated at Barnsley and District Holgate Grammar School
1967-71	University of Birmingham, B.Mus., M.A., studies Composition with John Joubert and Peter Dickinson
1971	Conducts first recognised orchestral composition <i>Improvisations on a Theme of Piet Mondrian</i> (unpublished), with University of Birmingham Chamber Orchestra
1971	Polish Government Scholarship to study in Warsaw, September 1971 – December 1972 Regular classes at the Academy of Music with Andrzej Dobrowolski and consultations with Witold Lutosławski
1973-79	Lecturer in Music, University of Birmingham, to December 1979
1973	'Jadu' (unpublished) was recognised by Society for the Promotion of New Music First BBC broadcast <i>Music for Cello and Piano</i> (unpublished) BBC Young Composers' Forum
1975	Publication of the article 'Transition and Transformation in the Music of Witold Lutosławski', in the journal Contact, Autumn edition 1975
1980-81	Research Fellow in Musical Composition, Huddersfield Polytechnic
1980	Featured Composer, Bath International Festival World premiere of "Firewhirl" for soprano and small ensemble
1981-92	Lecturer in Music, University of Durham
1984	Featured Composer, Musica Nova, Glasgow World premiere of "Orion over Farne" for orchestra
1985	Gives the Ingolf Dahl Memorial Lecture, University of Southern California, Los Angeles, to mark the opening of the Polish Music Reference Center, on the music of Witold Lutosławski, in the presence of the composer. World premiere of "Vaganza" for large ensemble
1986	"Orion over Farne" and "To Fields We Do Not Know " (premiere) at the BBC Proms
1987	Visiting Composer, University of Southern California, Santa Barbara
1989	Featured Composer, Almeida Festival; London Featured Composer, International New Music Week, Southampton World premiere of "Golem" chamber opera in two acts at the Almeida Theatre, London World premiere of "Maharal Dreaming" for orchestra with the Northern Sinfonia
1990	"Golem" wins The First Britten Prize for Musical Composition Awarded D.Mus. by University of Durham
1990-2000	Composer in Association, Northern Sinfonia

1991	CD recording of "Golem" wins Gramophone Award for Best Contemporary Recording World premiere of "Cello Concerto" with Heinrich Schiff and the Northern Sinfonia
	UK tour of "Golem" with Arts Council Contemporary Music Network Tour
1992	Rockefeller Foundation Award to work at the Study Center, Bellagio, Italy World premiere of "Still Mine" for baritone and orchestra at the BBC Proms "Tableaux des Trois Ages" performed by BBC Philharmonic and Yan Pascal Tortelier: begins long association with BBC Philharmonic
1992-2008	Professor of Music, The University of Manchester
1993	"Still Mine" wins Prince Pierre de Monaco Prize for Musical Composition World premiere of "Darting the Skiff" for string orchestra
1994	World premiere of "String Quartet No. 2" with the Lindsay String Quartet World premiere of "Infanta Marina" for cor anglais and small ensemble with the Nash Ensemble
1995	World premiere of "Violin Concerto" for violin and orchestra at the BBC Proms with Dmitry Sitkovetsky and the BBC Philharmonic Orchestra Conducts Northern Sinfonia in premiere recordings of "Darting the Skiff", "Maharal Dreaming", and "Vaganza" (Collins Classics, re-released on NMC in 2003)
1996	Awarded FRNCM (Fellowship of the Royal Northern College of Music)
1997	Invited Speaker at Lutosławski Symposium, Chopin Institute, University of Warsaw Artistic Advisor, 'Breaking Chains' Festival of Lutosławski's music, Guildhall School of Music and Drama, London Chairman of BBC Young Composers' Competition, Manchester
2001	World premiere of "God's Liar", an opera after Tolstoy with the Almeida Ensemble
	'The visionary and the dramatic in the music of Witold Lutosławski' - chapter published in Lutosławski Studies (ed. Zbigniew Skowron, OUP)
2002	Guest Composer, St Petersburg, conducts "Firewhirl" and "Infanta Marina" in the Maly Zal, Philharmonic Hall
2003	Conducts "Cello Concerto" with Munich Chamber Orchestra and Heinrich Schiff
2004	Jury Member of Sinfonia Baltica International Composer's Competition, Riga, Latvia
	World premiere of "Symphony (Broken Consort)" for orchestra with the BBC Philharmonic and Gianandrea Noseda
2005	'Casken Resonances' a festival of Casken's music at the Royal Northern College of Music, Manchester World premiere of "Rest-Ringing" for string quartet and orchestra with the Lindsay String Quartet and the Hallé Jury Member of Witold Lutosławski Composers' Competition, Warsaw
2006	World premiere of "Farness" (Three Poems of Carol Ann Duffy) for soprano, viola and chamber orchestra at the Huddersfield Contemporary Music Festival

2007	Jury Member of Luxembourg International Composers' Competition Jury Member of Aberdeen Music Prize
2008	World premiere of "Shadowed Pieces" at The University of Manchester in a day of concerts to mark retirement as Professor of Music Emeritus Professor of Music
	World premiere of "The Dream of the Rood" for vocal and chamber ensembles with the Hilliard Ensemble and Ensemble 10/10
2009	Invited speaker at Polish Music Since 1945 Conference, Canterbury Christ Church University Composer Director, Lake District Summer Music School for Composers, Sedbergh, with Orlando Consort Jury Member of International Composers' Competition, Stresa, Italy Featured Composer, The International Organ Festival at St Alban's, "Sacrificium" is the test piece for the Quarter-Finalists Winner of the 2009 British Composer Awards (Vocal Category) for "The Dream of the Rood"
2010	Becomes Chairman and Artistic Director of Alwinton Church Summer Concerts, Upper Coquetdale, Northumberland
2011	Series of interviews directed and filmed by Barrie Gavin Awarded degree of Doctor of Civil Law (honoris causa) by University of King's College, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada Awarded degree of Doctor of Music (honoris causa) by University of Birmingham
2012	Lecture for Manchester Literary and Philosophical Society
2013	Composition of "Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis" for mixed choir and organ, commissioned for the Evensong and Thanksgiving in Durham Cathedral for the visit of the Lindisfarne Gospel Book to the Durham World Heritage Site.
2014	World premiere of "That Subtle Knot" - double concerto for violin, viola and orchestra with Thomas Zehetmair, violin; Ruth Killius, viola and the Royal Northern Sinfonia World premiere of "Apollinaire's Bird" for oboe and orchestra with Stéphane Rancourt, oboe and the Hallé conducted by Mark Elder "Apollinaire's Bird" shortlisted for the 2014 Royal Philharmonic Society Awards and BASCA Awards
2015	World premiere of "Stolen Airs" for cello and piano with Philip Higham and Alasdair Beatson
2016	World premiere of "Lines from a Wanderer" for baritone and piano for Marcus Farnsworth
2017	World premiere of "Kokoschka's Doll", a melodrama for bass baritone and ensemble for John Tomlinson, at the Cheltenham Music Festival with further performances at the Deal Festival and Buxton Festival
2017	World premiere of "Misted Land" by the Nash Ensemble at Wigmore Hall
2019	World premiere of "From this red earth" by the Choir of Lincoln's Inn
2019	World premiere of "Madonna of Silence" by The Hallé and Katy Jones

2019	NCM album release of <i>John Casken: The Dream of the Rood</i> featuring The Hilliard Ensemble and Asko Schönberg Ensemble
2020	Royal Musical Association awards Tippett Medal for "The Shackled King*
2022	"Shackled King" receives Ivors Composer Award nomation
2023	ECM New Series album release of the Royal Northern Sinfonia's recording of "That Subtle Knot"

WORKS

Stage Works Chamber Opera

Golem

Chamber opera in two acts (1986 - 1988) (Prelude and Legend) Words and music by John Casken Libretto created in collaboration with Pierre Audi (English)

commissioned by the Almeida Festival with funds provided by the Arts Council of Great Britain

 $\label{eq:maharal} \begin{tabular}{ll} Maharal \cdot baritone - Golem \cdot bass-baritone - Miriam \cdot soprano - Ometh \cdot countertenor - Stoikus \cdot tenor - Gerty \cdot mezzo-soprano - Stump \cdot tenor - Jadek \cdot baritone \\ \end{tabular}$

fl(pic,afl).ca.Bbcl(Acl,bcl,ssax,asax)-hn.tbn-1perc(angklung, bell tree, 2bng, cabaça, 5clay plant-pots, chains, lg cow bell, sizz cym, 3sus cym, b.d, pedal b.d, log drum, frusta, gong, guiro, h.h, 4r.toms, 3spring coils, tam-t, 4tempbl, 2wdbl, crot, flex, mar)-electronic tape-hp-vn.vc.db

95' 0"

Material on hire

Premiere: June 28, 1989 · London (UK)

Almeida Theatre

Conductor: Richard Bernas

Original staging: Pierre Audi · Costumes: Hildegard Bechtler · Set desing: Kyoji Takubo

(scenic)

Kokoschka's Doll

Melodrama for bass-baritone (narrating and singing) and ensemble (2016) Text by John Casken and Barry Millington based on the letters and autobiography of Oskar Kokoschka (English)

Commissioned by Deborah Calland and Barry Millington for Counterpoise and with funding by the RVW Trust

ssax(asax)-tpt-pno-vln

Ordernumber: ED 13987 (Score)

Premiere: July 9, 2017 · Cheltenham (UK)

Parabola Arts Centre

Cheltenham Music Festival 2017 Counterpoise; John Tomlinson, bass

Opera

God's Liar

An opera after Tolstoy (1999 - 2000) Libretto by Emma Warner and John Casken (English)

Prince Stepan Kasatsky / Father Sergius · bass-baritone - Stephen · tenor - Countess Marie Korotkova

/ Mary / Makovkina / Film Star / Girl / Pasha / The Woman · soprano - chorus (MzMzTTBarBar)

1(afl,pic).1(ca).2(1.ssax,bcl,2.asax,Ebcl,bcl).1(cbsn)-1.1.1.0-perc(b.d, tam-t, gong, 2tub bells, bell plate, 4tom-t, 3cow bells [lg/med/sm], 3tempbl, field dr, s.d, bass pedal dr, sus cym, sizz cym, Chinese cym, clash cym, bell tree, vib, sleigh bells, marac, vibraslap, guiro, glass wind chimes, musical saw)-hp-3vn.2va.2vc.db

110'0"

Material on hire

Premiere: July 6, 2001 · London (UK)

King's Cross

Father Sergius: Omar Ebrahim; Stephen: Jeffrey Lentz; The Woman: Anne Bolstad; Mezzo: Louise Innes; Mezzo: Louise Mott; Tenor: Henry Moss; Tenor: Daniel Norman; Baritone: Alastair Hamilton;

Baritone: Michael Burke · Conductor: Ronald Zollman · The Almeida Ensemble

Original staging: Keith Warner · Set desing: John Lloyd Davies

Theatre Plays

Deadly Pleasures

for narrator and instrumental ensemble (2009)

Text from D. M. Thomas' book 'Ararat' based on a poem by Alexander Pushkin (English)

Commissioned by Counterpoise with support from the PRS Foundation, the RVW Trust and The Holst Foundation

ssax(tsax)-tpt-pno-vln

25' 0"

Ordernumber: ED 13530 (Score)

Premiere: June 7, 2009 · Ulverston (UK)

Coronation Hall

Ulverston Festival 2009

Counterpoise; Johanna Lonsky, narrator

Orchestra

Orchestra

Concerto for Orchestra

for orchestra (2007)

Commissioned by the Musikalische Akademie des Nationaltheater-Orchesters Mannheim with the support of Die Landesbank Baden-Württemberg

I dramatic and sudden · resolute - II calm and unhurried · intense and energetic

3(3.pic).2.ca.2(2.Ebcl).bcl.3(3.cbsn)-4.3(1.Dtpt).2.btbn.1-timp.3perc(crot, vib, tub bells, sizz cym, Chinese cym, h.h, Swiss cow-bell, gong, horizontal gong, 2tam-t, tamb, bng, s.d, 5tom-t, b.d, clav, casts, marac, 5tempbl, wdbl, cabaça, vibraslap)-hp-str

20' 0"

Material on hire

Premiere: March 31, 2008 · Mannheim (D)

Mozartsaal, Rosengarten

Conductor: Friedemann Layer · Nationaltheater-Orchester Mannheim

Maharal Dreaming

Fantasy based on material from the opera "Golem" (1989) for orchestra

Commissioned by the Northern Sinfonia for their 1988-89 season with funds provided by Northern Arts and the Arts Council of Great Britain

2(1.pic).2(2.ca).2(2.bcl).2-2.2.0.0-1perc(2bng, b.d, 2tam-t, 3tom-t, clav, wdbl, vib, xyl)-str(8.6.4.3.2)

12' 0"

Material on hire

Premiere: May 12, 1989 · Darlington (UK)

Town Hall

Conductor: Ronald Zollman \cdot Northern Sinfonia

Orion over Farne

for orchestra (1984 (1986))

Commissioned by the BBC for the 1984 Musica Nova Festival

3(3.pic).2.ca.3(3.bcl).2.cbsn-4.2.2.btbn.1-timp.3perc(2cong, clash cym, 3sus cym, 3log d, b.d, t.d, 3gong, tam-t, 4tom-t, crot, glsp, mar, tub bells, vib, xyl)-cel/pno-str(16.14.12.10.8)

20' 0"

Material on hire

Premiere: September 17, 1984 · Glasgow (UK)

Conductor: Matthias Bamert · Scottish National Orchestra

Sortilège

for orchestra (1995 - 1996)

Commissioned by the Philharmonia Orchestra with funds provided by the Arts Council of England

3(3.pic).2.ca.bass ob.2.bcl.ssax.2.cbsn-4.flugelhn.2.2.btbn.1-timp.2perc(4drums, large b.d, large sus cym, casts, 2tam-t, log d, h.h, medium cow bell, small sus cym, mar, vib, glsp, crot, tub bells, 3gong, marac, cabaça)-hp.pno(cel)-str

20'0"

Material on hire

Premiere: April 9, 1996 · London (UK)

Royal Festival Hall

Conductor: Leonard Slatkin · Philharmonia Orchestra

Symphony (Broken Consort)

for orchestra (2003 - 2004)

Commissioned by the BBC

I $\downarrow =48$ - II minim =54

pic.2.2.ca.2(2.Ebcl).cbcl.2.cbsn-4.3.2.btbn.1-timp.4perc(crot, vib, tub bells, sizz cym, clash cym, 3Swiss cow bell, Latin cow bell, 4Thai gong, 2tam-t, 2bng, b.d, 4r. toms, marac, clav, tempbl, vibraslap)-electric vn.mandolin.cimbalom.hp.accordion.pno-str(16.14.12.10.8 maximum)

30' 0"

Material on hire

Premiere: July 22, 2004 · London (UK)

Royal Albert Hall BBC Proms 2004

Conductor: Gianandrea Noseda · BBC Philharmonic

Tableaux des Trois Âges

for orchestra (1976 - 1977)

Commissioned for the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra by the Feeney Trust and the Birmingham Triennial Musical Festival

3(3.pic).2.3(3.bcl).3-4.3.3.1-timp.3perc.(tub bells, 2bng, clav, 2cong, 2sus cym, s.d, b.d, 3gong, tam-t, tempbl, 5tom-t, wdbl, glsp, mar, vib)-hp.pno-str

18' 0"

Material on hire

Premiere: September 27, 1977 · Birmingham (UK)

Birmingham Triennial Festival 1977

Conductor: Vernon Handley · City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra

Chamber Orchestra - Ensemble

Amarantos

for nine players (1977 - 1978)

Commissioned by the BBC

1(afl).1.1(bcl).0-1.1.0.0-perc(2bng, b.d, tam-t, 3tom-t, mar)-pno-va.vc

16' 0"

Material on hire

Premiere: December 12, 1978 · London (UK)

King's College

Conductor: Peter Eötvös · London Sinfonietta

Amarantos

for chamber orchestra (1977 - 1978)

1(alto fl.) \cdot 1 \cdot cl in Bb (b.cl.) - hn. \cdot tpt - perc. (2 bongos, b.d., tam-tam, 3 tom-toms, marimba)(1 player) - pf. - vla \cdot vc.

16' 0"

Ordernumber: ED 11483 (Score)

Kokoschka's Doll

Melodrama for bass-baritone (narrating and singing) and ensemble (2016) Text by John Casken and Barry Millington based on the letters and autobiography of Oskar Kokoschka

(English)

Commissioned by Deborah Calland and Barry Millington for Counterpoise and with funding by the RVW Trust

ssax(asax)-tpt-pno-vln

Ordernumber: ED 13987 (Score)

Premiere: July 9, 2017 · Cheltenham (UK)

Parabola Arts Centre

Cheltenham Music Festival 2017 Counterpoise; John Tomlinson, bass

Trackway of Time

for baritone and chamber orchestra (2014 - 2015) text from "The Clock-Winder" by Thomas Hardy (English)

Commissioned by the Durham University Orchestral Society to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the group's founding

2.0.2.2-2.0.0.0-perc(vib, crot, tam-t, bell-plate, b.d., vibraslap, wdblk)-str

11'0"

Material on hire

Premiere: June 15, 2015 · Durham (UK)

Durham Cathedral

Sir Thomas Allen, baritone \cdot Conductor: Oliver Zeffman \cdot Durham University Chamber Orchestra

Vaganza

for large ensemble (1985)

Commissioned by the 1985 St. Albans International Organ Festival with funds provided by the Arts Council of Great Britain

I Display - II Archaic Dance · Interlude - Puppets I - III Eructavit in Vaganza - IV Puppets II and Melting Mood Blues - V Parade · Interlude - Puppets III - VI Display [Vaganza can be performed complete, or in separate suites of varying lengths.]

1(afl,pic).1(ca).1(Ebcl,bcl,ssax).1(cbsn)-1.1.1.0-1perc(bell tree, 2bng, 2cong, sus cym, pedal b.d, s.d, whip, guiro, h.h, ratchet, tam-t, 3wdbl, xyl)-hp.org-str(1.1.1.1)

27' 0"

Material on hire

Premiere: July 12, 1985 · St Albans (UK) Conductor: Nicholas Cleobury · Aquarius

July 12, 1999 · St. Albans (UK) St. Albans Festival 1999 Conductor: Nicholas Cleobury

Winter Reels

for ensemble (2010)

Commissioned by Psappha

fl(pic, afl).cl(bcl)-perc(mar, tubaphone, tub bell, tam-t, gong, lg Swiss cow bell, Japanese temple bowl, steel pan, bell tree, sm b.d, lg b.d, clav, 5 tempbl)-pno-vn.vc

20' 0"

Material on hire

Premiere: September 10, 2011 · Hatfield (UK)

Hatfield House

Psappha · Conductor: Nicholas Kok

String Orchestra - String Ensemble

Darting the Skiff

for string orchestra

Ordernumber: ED 13027 (Score)

Darting the Skiff

for string orchestra (1992 - 1993)

str (6.5.3.3.1 min)

17' 0"

Material on hire

Premiere: July 13, 1993 · Cheltenham (UK)

Town Hall

DARTING THE SKIFF Str.Orch Sco

for

Ordernumber: ARC 3717

Wind Orchestra - Wind Ensemble

Distant Variations

for saxophone-Quartett and wind band (1996 - 1997)

 $pic(fl, afl) \cdot 2 \cdot 2 \cdot ca \cdot 2.bcl(cl) \cdot 2 \cdot cbn - 4 \cdot 3 \cdot 2 \cdot btbn \cdot 1 - timp. \cdot perc.$ (pedal b.d., b.d., 3tom-toms, 2bng., slit dr., hi-hat, 5t.bl., tam-tam, 2c.b., xyl., marimba., vibra., tub.bells, marac., claves, cabaca, rain stick)(2 Players)

16' 0"

Ordernumber: ED 12646 (Study score)

Kagura

for thirteen wind instruments (1972 - 1973)

 $2 \cdot 2 \cdot 2 \cdot asax. \cdot 2$ - $2 \cdot 2 \cdot 0 \cdot 0$

8' 0"

Ordernumber: ED 13026 (Study score)

Kagura

for thirteen wind instruments (1972 - 1973)

2.2.2.asax.2-2.2.0.0

18' 0"

Material on hire

Premiere: May 1973 · Birmingham (UK)

St. Paul's Church

Conductor: James Young \cdot St. Paul's Orchestra

Solo Instruments with Orchestra or Ensemble Violin

Après un silence

for violin and chamber orchestra (1998)

1(pic).1.1(bcl).ssax.1(cbsn)-1.1.1.0-1perc(ten d, b.d, sizz cym, 3 tempbl, tam-t, gong, mar, vib, glsp, crot, tub bell)-pno-str(6.4.3.3.2 or 1.1.1.1.1)

18' 0"

Material on hire

Premiere: March 24, 1999 · Newcastle (UK)

Newcastle City Hall

Kyra Humphreys, violin · Conductor: Nicholas Kraemer · Northern Sinfonia

Violin Concerto

for violin and orchestra (1994 - 1995)

Commissioned by the BBC for Dmitry Sitkovetsky and the BBC Philharmonic

I \rfloor =100, appassionato - II \rfloor =66, cantabile - III \rfloor =66, marcato e ritmico

3(2.pic 3.pic, afl).2.ca.2.bcl.2.cbsn-4.2.3.1-timp.2perc(vib, tub bells, mar, crot, marac, high bng, large cym, low tom-t, whip, h.h, xyl, b.d, large tam-t, hand bells, tempbl, cong, tri, cabaça)-hp-str

30' 0"

Material on hire

Premiere: July 26, 1995 · London (UK) Royal Albert Hall BBC Proms 1995

 $\label{eq:def:Dmitry Sitkovetsky, violin · Conductor: Yan Pascal Tortelier · BBC Philharmonic Orchestra$

Violoncello

Cello Concerto

for cello and chamber orchestra (1990 - 1991)

Commissioned by the Northern Sinfonia for the 1991 Schleswig-Holstein Music Festival with funds provided by the Arts Council of Great Britain

I Introduction ($\Gamma = 96$) - II ...on folds of stone... ($\Gamma = 138$)

2(1.afl, pic 2.pic).2(2.ca).2(1.ssax 2.bcl).2-2.2.0.0-timp-str(8.6.4.4.2 max)

20' 0"

Material on hire

Premiere: July 7, 1991 · Wotersen (D) Schleswig-Holstein Musik Festival 1991 Heinrich Schiff, Cello · Northern Sinfonia

Double Bass

Erin

for double bass and small orchestra (1982 - 1983)

Commissioned by the Secretariat of the Isle of Man Double Bass Competition with funds provided by the Arts Council of Great Britain

2ob-2hn-str(8.6.4.4.1)

13' 0"

Material on hire

Premiere: January 22, 1988 · York (UK)

University of York, Central Hall

Duncan McTier, double bass · Conductor: Gilbert Varga · Northern Sinfonia

Oboe

Apollinaire's Bird

Concerto for oboe and orchestra (2013)

Commissioned by the Hallé

pic.2.2.ca.2.bcl.2.cbsn-4.3.2.btbn.1-timp.3perc(2b.d, 2s.d, 4tom-t, xyl, sizz cym, vibraslap, h.h, tam-t, medium bng [damped], bell-plate, slit-drum, 2cong, large tempbl, crots, hand-bells [B and C#], glsp, cabasa, large Swiss cow-bell)-hp.pno(cel)-str

20' 0"

Material on hire

Premiere: April 10, 2014 · Manchester (UK)

Bridgewater Hall

Stéphane Rancourt, oboe · Conductor: Mark Elder · Hallé Orchestra

Masque

for solo oboe, horns and strings (1982)

Commissioned by the City of London Sinfonia with funds provided by the Arts Council of Great Britain

I 🕽 =52-56 - II Game of Nudge - III Antimasque I - IV Dream of Nudge - V Antimasque II

2hn-str(6.4.3.2.1)

26' 0"

Material on hire

Premiere: October 9, 1982 · Eton (UK)

Eton College

Heinz Holliger, oboe · Conductor: Richard Hickox · City of London Sinfonia

Cor Anglais

Infanta Marina

for cor anglais and small ensemble (1993 - 1994 (1997))

Commissioned by the Nash Ensemble with funds provided by Greater London Arts

fl(afl, pic).cl(bcl)-hn-hp-va.db

16' 0"

Material on hire

Premiere: March 1, 1994 · London (UK)

Purcell Room

Nash Ensemble · Conductor: Lionel Friend

March 1, 1994 · London (UK)

Purcell Room

Conductor: Lionel Friend · Nash Ensemble

Bassoon

Blue Medusa

for bassoon and ensemble (2002 (2007))

cl-hn-str(1.1.1.1.1)

10' 0"

Material on hire

Premiere: January 25, 2008 · Manchester (UK)

The Cosmo Rodewald Concert Hall, Martin Harris Centre, University of Manchester

John Casken Tribute Day

University of Manchester New Music Ensemble; Lorna Tyack, bassoon · Conductor: John Casken

Horn

Cor d'oeuvre

for solo horn, piano, harp and six double basses (1993)

7' 0"

Material on hire

Premiere: November 4, 1993 · Manchester (UK)

Free Trade Hall

Members of the Hallé Orchestra · Conductor: John Casken

Trombone

Madonna of Silence

a drama for trombone and orchestra (2017 - 2018)

Commissioned by the Hallé Concerts Society

I The Madonna in Contemplation - II Premonitions - III The Madonna's Hymn - IV Joseph the Witness - V The Distant Figure - VI The Wounded Child, The Tortured Child, The Fallen Child - VII The Madonna's Lamentations - VIII The Empty Hour-glass

0.2.ca.2.bcl.2.cbsn-4.0.0.0-timp.3perc(mar, vib, crot, tub bells, tam-t, lg Javanese gong, Chinese cym, sizzle cymbal, tuned gong, bell plate, cowbell, Japanese singling bowl, 2 bongos, s.d., b.d., hi-hat, wdblks, rain stick, shaker, guiro, frusta)-str

24' 0"

Material on hire

Premiere: February 28, 2019 · Manchester (UK)

Bridgewater Hall

Katy Jones, trombone · Conductor: Jamie Phillips · Hallé Orchestra

Other Solo Instruments

A Second Song of Chimes

for tenor recorder, bells and strings (2011)

7' 0"

Material on hire

Premiere: July 9, 2011 · Gateshead (UK) St Mary's, Gateshead Heritage Centre

2 and more Solo Instruments

Distant Variations

for saxophone quartet and wind orchestra (1996 - 1997)

Commissioned by the Royal Northern College of Music

pic(afl).2.2.ca.2.bcl(cl).2.cbsn-4.3.2.btbn.1-timp.3perc(pedal b.d, b.d, 3tom-t, 2bng, slit d, h.h, 5tempbl, tam-t, 2cow bells, xyl, mar, vib, tub bells, 2marac, clav, cabaça, rain stick)-pno

16' 0"

Material on hire

Premiere: March 10, 1997 · London (UK)

Barbican Hall

Apollo Saxophone Quartet · Conductor: Timothy Reynish · RNCM Wind Orchestra

Rest-ringing

for string quartet and orchestra (2004 - 2005)

Commissioned by the Hallé Concerts Society

3(3.pic).2.2.bcl.2.cbsn-4.2.2.btbn.1-timp.2perc(crot, vib, tub bells, bell plate, tri, sizz cym, Chinese cym, large Swizz cow bell, 2tam-t, s.d, log drum, b.d, marac, clav, cabaça, wdbl, whip)-hp.cel-str(14.12.10.8.6 maximum)

15' 0"

Material on hire

Premiere: May 19, 2005 · Manchester (UK)

Bridgewater Hall

Lindsay String Quartet \cdot Conductor: Mark Elder \cdot Hallé Orchestra

(concert) (concert performance)

That Subtle Knot

double concerto for violin, viola and orchestra (2012 - 2013)

Commissioned by Thomas Zehetmair and Ruth Killius, and The Sage Gateshead

2(2.pic).2.2(2.bcl).2(2.cbsn)-2.2.0.0-timp(b.d)-str(8.6.4.4.2 minimum)

25' 0"

Material on hire

Premiere: June 11, 2014 · Gateshead (UK)

The Sage

Thomas Zehetmair, violin; Ruth Killius, viola \cdot Conductor: Thomas Zehetmair \cdot Royal Northern

Sinfonia

Chamber Music

A Belle Pavine

for violin and tape

Ordernumber: ED 13009

A Spring Cadenza

for cello (1994)

vc.

7' 0"

Ordernumber: ED 12490

Amethyst Deceiver

for solo oboe (2009)

6' 0"

Ordernumber: ED 13287

Premiere: May 27, 2009 · Manchester (UK)

Cosmo Rodewald Concert Hall, Martin Harris Centre for Music and Drama, University of Manchester

Emily Sleightholme, oboe

Après un silence

for violin and piano (1998)

18' 0"

Ordernumber: ED 12650

Premiere: February 21, 1999 · Dublin (IRL)

Hugh Lane Municipal Gallery

Lesley Hatfield, Violine; Bill Lloyd, Klavier

Blue Medusa

for bassoon and piano (2002)

Commissioned for Rosemary Burton by her parents for her 18th birthday

10'0"

Ordernumber: FAG 1001

Premiere: July 17, 2003 · Potters Bar (UK)

Dame Alice Owen's School

Rosemary Burton, bassoon; Christopher White, piano

Choses en moi

for string quartet (2003)

6' 0"

Ordernumber: ED 12868 (Score and parts)

Premiere: October 4, 2003 · Manchester (UK)

Cosmo Rodewald Concert Hall, University of Manchester

The Lindsay Quartet

Clarion Sea

for brass quintet (1984 - 1985)

2tpt.hn.tbn.tba

13' 0"

Material on hire

Premiere: May 5, 1985 · Birmingham (UK)

Canon Hill Arts Centre Fine Arts Brass Ensemble

FLUCTUS [withdrawn by composer]

for violin and piano (1973)

12' 0"

Inevitable Rifts

for string quintet (2009 (2020))

Commissioned by the Musiktage Mondsee Festival

2vln.vla.2vc

21' 0"

Ordernumber: ED 13321 (Score and parts)

Premiere: September 4, 2009 · Mondsee (A)

Schlosskonzerte

Musiktage Mondsee 2009

Rosamunde Quartett; Heinrich Schiff, Cello

February 1, 2024 · Manchester (UK)

Martin Harris Centre, Manchester University

Quatuor Danel

Infanta Marina

for small ensemble

solo c.a. · fl. (alto fl., picc.) · cl. (b.cl.) - hn. - hp. - vla. - d.b.

16' 0"

Ordernumber: ED 12604 (Study score)

Ligature Score

for flute, 2 clarinets, 2 trumpets, tuba, percussion, 2 violins, viola and double bass

Misted Land

for clarinet quintet (2017)

Commissioned by The Nash Ensemble with support from the Ernst von Siemens Music Foundation

I Misterioso - II Calmato e cantabile - III Vivo spiritoso

20' 0"

Ordernumber: ED 13990 (Score and parts)

Premiere: September 20, 2017 · London (UK)

Wigmore Hall Nash Ensemble

Music for a Tawny-Gold Day

for viola, alto saxophone, bass clarinet and piano (1975)

10'0"

Material on hire

Music for a Tawny-Gold Day

for viola, alto saxophone, bass clarinet and piano (1975)

10'0"

Ordernumber: ED 11401 (Study score)

Music for the Crabbing Sun

for flute, oboe, cello and harpsichord (1974 - 1975)

Written for the Twentieth Century Ensemble

10'0"

Ordernumber: ED 11400 (Study score)

Music for the Crabbing Sun

for flute, oboe, cello and harpsichord (1974 - 1975)

Written for the Twentieth Century Ensemble

10' 0"

Material on hire

Nearly Distant

for saxophone quartet (2000)

8' 0"

Ordernumber: ED 12831 (Score and parts)

Premiere: November 16, 2000 · Manchester (UK)

Royal Northern College of Music

Apollo Saxophone Quartet

Piano Quartet

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for piano quartet (1990)
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Commissioned by the Birmingham Chamber Music Society with funds provided by West Midlands Arts

pno-vln.vla.vc

16' 0"

Ordernumber: ED 12414 (Score and parts)

Piano Trio

for violin, cello and piano (2000 - 2002)

I Shadows - II Striding the Line - III Dreams - IV Dancing the Line - V Memories

pno-vln.vc

20' 0"

Ordernumber: ED 12775 (Score and parts)

Premiere: May 6, 2002 · Brighton (UK)

Brighton Festival 2002

Florestan Trio

Serpents of Wisdom

for horn in F and piano (2015)

Commissioned jointly by BBC Radio 3 and the Royal Philharmonic Society as part of the New Generation Artists Scheme

11' 0"

Ordernumber: ED 13796

Premiere: February 1, 2016 · London (UK)

Wigmore Hall

Alec Frank-Gemmill, horn; Alasdair Beatson, piano

Shadowed Pieces

for violin and piano (2006)

Commissioned by Mary Crehan and Jim Doyle for their daughter Louise, for her twenty-first birthday.

I shadowed by the blackened tree - II ...by a far-away song - III ...by shadows past - IV ...by a quickening moon - V ...by forgotten voices - VI ...by the harrowed land

16' 0"

Ordernumber: ED 13084 (Score and parts)

Premiere: January 25, 2008 · Manchester (UK)

The Cosmo Rodewald Concert Hall, Martin Harris Centre, University of Manchester

John Casken Tribute Day

Marc Danel, violin; David Fanning, piano

Soul Catcher

for marimba and CD (2004)

13' 44"

Ordernumber: ED 13364

Premiere: Oct 2004 · Manchester (UK)

The Martin Harris Centre for Music and Drama, University of Manchester

James Clements, marimba

(first version)

Nov 2007 · Manchester (UK)

The Martin Harris Centre for Music and Drama, University of Manchester

Stephen Pycroft, marimba

(revised version)

Stolen Airs

for cello and piano (2015)

Commissioned by Dr Elizabeth Manning as a gift for her husband, Professor Peter Manning, to celebrate his retriement after a long and distinguished career at the University of Durham

15' 0"

Ordernumber: ED 13864 (Score and part)

Premiere: November 24, 2015 · Durham (UK) Durham University Music School, Palace Green Philip Higham, cello; Alasdair Beatson, piano

Organizer: Musicon

String Quartet

for string quartet (1981 - 1982)

Commissioned by the New MacNaughten Concerts for their 50th Anniversary Season with funds provided by the Arts Council of Great Britain

15' 0"

Ordernumber: ED 12071 (Study score)

Premiere: February 2, 1982 · London (UK)

St John's Smith Square Lindsay String Quartet

String Quartet No. 2

for string quartet (1993 - 1994 (1996))

16' 0"

Ordernumber: ED 12605 (Study score)

Premiere: February 5, 1994 · Manchester (UK)

University of Manchester Lindsay String Quartet

Thymehaze

for treble recorder and piano (1976)

10' 0"

Ordernumber: TMR 6 (Performing score)

VIOLIN CONCERTO Score

for

Ordernumber: ARC 3713

Keyboard Instruments

Piano

Piano solo

Pleasure-ground

for piano (2012)

3' 0"

Ordernumber: ED 13510 (Separate edition)

Premiere: June 8, 2012 · London (UK)

Schott Music Recital Room

Huw Watkins, piano

Six Wooded Pieces

for solo piano (2018)

I Haunting Bough (I) - II Swinging Bough - III Shaded Bough - IV Weathered Bough - V Silvered Bough - VI Haunting Bough (II)

14' 0"

Ordernumber: ED 14023

Premiere: April 13, 2019 · Singapore (SGP)

Esplanade Recital Hall Kenneth Hamilton, piano

The Haunting Bough

Variation on a theme by Rameau (1999)

5' 0"

Ordernumber: ED 12752

Premiere: September 23, 1999 · London (UK)

Purcell Room

Stephen Gutman, Klavier

Three Pieces for a Room

Three simple piano pieces for children (2005 - 2012)

1 The faulty clock - 2 A quiet song - 3 Faraway bird

4' 0"

Ordernumber: ED 13555

Two and more pianos

Salamandra

Fire-haunt for two pianos

2 pf.

16' 0"

Ordernumber: ED 12375 (Study score)

Organ

Organ solo

Ligatura for organ

[withdrawn by composer - not on web]

Sacrificium

for organ (2009)

Commissioned by the International Organ Festival Society at St Albans for the 25th International Organ Festival 2009 with support from the Royal College of Organists

8' 0"

Ordernumber: ED 13260

Premiere: July 18, 2009 · St Albans (UK)

St Albans Cathedral

International Organ Festival at St Albans 2009

Vocal Music

Choral music

Mixed Choir

A Song of Chimes

for SATB choir and organ (1996) (English)

4' 0"

Ordernumber: ED 13175 (Choral score)

Child of Hope

Hymn and Variation on "The race that long in darkness pined" (2018) Scottish Psalter (1615) as given in Ravenscroft's Psalter (1621) for unaccompanied SATB choir (English)

Casken's Child of Hope is described as Hymn and Variation on "The race that long in darkness pined", a Christmastide and Epiphany hymn first appearing in the Scottish Psalter of 1615, as given in the Ravenscroft Psalter of 1621. It presents Verse 1 of the original hymn followed by an extended variation on verses 1, 3 and 5.

3' 0"

Ordernumber: ED 14034 (Choral score)

Premiere: December 16, 2018 · Wooler, Northumberland (UK)

St Ninian's Church

Conductor: John Casken · Coquetdale Chamber Choir

From this red earth

for chamber choir (2018 - 2019) Text by John Donne (English)

Commissioned by Lincoln's Inn

7' 0"

Ordernumber: ED 14035 (Choral score)

Premiere: June 5, 2019 · London (UK)

Lincoln's Inn Chapel

Conductor: Nicholas Shaw · Choir of Lincoln's Inn

In the bleak mid-winter

for SATB choir and organ (2008) text by Christina Rossetti (English)

6' 0"

Ordernumber: ED 13285 (Choral score)

Premiere: December 19, 2008 · Alwinton, Northumberland (UK)

St Michael and All Angels Church

John Casken, organ · Conductor: Graham Stacy · Alwinton and Holystone Church Choir

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis

for mixed choir and organ (2012 - 2013)

Liturgical text

(English)

Commissioned by Durham Cathedral with support from Durham Cathedral Choir Association; and Lindisfarne Gospels Durham, through its Arts Council England grant.

15' 0"

Ordernumber: ED 13536 (Choral score)

Premiere: June 30, 2013 · Durham (UK)

Durham Cathedral

Francesca Massey, organ · Conductor: James Lancelot · Durham Cathedral Choir

Returning from the tomb

for choir (SATB) (2013)

text from St Luke Chapter 24 vv 1-12

(English)

composed for the Easter Vigil, All Saints' Church, Rothbury, 2013

4' 0"

Ordernumber: ED 13640 (Choral score)

Premiere: March 30, 2013 · Rothbury (UK)

All Saints' Church

Conductor: John Casken · Coquetdale Chamber Choir

The Knight's Stone

for SATB choir and flute (2011)

anonymous 15th century text, Corpus Christi Carol

(English)

8' 0"

Ordernumber: ED 13462 (Choral score)

Premiere: July 23, 2011 · Alwinton (UK)

Alwinton Church

Gavin Osborn, flute · Conductor: Alan Fearon · Northern Sinfonia Chorus

The Knight's Stone

for SATB choir and flute (2011) $\,$

anonymous 15th century text, Corpus Christi Carol

(English)

8' 0"

Ordernumber: ED 13462-10 (Individual part)

Three Choral Pieces

for unaccompanied voices (SATB)

Texts by George Herbert, Lancelot Andrewes and Sylvia Townsend (English)

The Land of Spices was commissioned by Hatfield College Choir, University of Durham with funds provided by Northern Arts; A Gathering was commissioned by King's College, Cambridge for the Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols; Sunrising was composed as a gift to Durham Cathedral in the year of its 900th anniversary

The Land of Spices "Prayer the Churches banquet" (G. Herbert) - A Gathering "The text is of a gathering" (L. Andrewes) - Sunrising "Early one morning" (S. Townsend Warner)

17' 0"

Ordernumber: ED 12421 (Choral score)

To Fields We Do Not Know

A Northumbrian Elegy (1984 (2022)) for unaccompanied choir (English)

Commissioned by the BBC

22' 0"

Ordernumber: ED 12285 (Choral score)

Premiere: October 26, 1985 · Durham (UK)

Durham Cathedral

Conductor: John Poole · BBC Singers

Uncertain Sea

for SATB choir (2014) text by Katrina Porteous (English)

Commissioned by the National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

7' 30"

Ordernumber: ED 13679 (Choral score)

Premiere: August 30, 2014 · Gateshead (UK)

Sage

Conductor: Ben Parry · National Youth Choir of Great Britain

Men's choir

The Dream of the Rood

for four voices and instrumental ensemble (2008) Text freely adapted by the composer from the Anglo-Saxon poem (English) Co-commissioned by Liverpool Capital of Culture and The Hilliard Ensemble as part of the European Capital of Culture Programme 2008

1(afl, pic).0.ca.0.ssax.1(cbsn)-1.0.1.0-perc(crot, vib, mar, bell plate, sizz cym, Swiss cow bell, gong [horizontal], tam-t, 2 bng, 2slit drum, wood drum, 2cong, 2b.d, marac, 5tempbl, vibraslap)-hp-str(0.0.1.0.1)

30' 0"

Ordernumber: ED 13468 (Study score)

Symphonic vocal works

Solo Voice with Orchestra or Instruments

Farness

three poems of Carol Ann Duffy (2006) for soprano, solo viola and chamber orchestra (English)

Commissioned by The Sage Gateshead for Northern Sinfonia

I Who Loves You - II Valentine - III Penelope

2(1.afl 2.pic).2(2.ca).2(2.Ebcl.bcl).2(2.cbsn)-2.2.0.0-2perc(crot, vib, tub bells, sizz cym, Chinese cym, h.h, small cow bell, small cow bell, Swiss cow bell, tam-t, 3gong, tamb, 3tom-t, slit drum, b.d, timp, 5tempbl, guiro, clav, marac, cabaça, frusta)-pno-str(8.6.4.4.2)

17' 0"

Material on hire

Premiere: November 19, 2006 · Huddersfield (UK)

Town Hall

Huddersfield Contemporary Music Festival 2006

Patricia Rozario, soprano; Ruth Kilius, viola · Conductor: Thomas Zehetmair · Northern Sinfonia

Firewhirl

for soprano and seven players (1979 - 1980) a setting of words by George MacBeth (English)

Commissioned by the Bath Festival with funds provided by South West Arts and the Arts Council of Great Britain

fl.cl.bsn-hn-vn.va.vc

17' 0"

Material on hire

Premiere: May 25, 1980 · Bath (UK)

Bath Festival 1980

Conductor: John Casken · Teresa Cahill and Capricorn

Still Mine

for baritone and orchestra (1991 - 1992) texts by Gael Turnbull, Jon Silkin and Rodney Pybus (English)

Commissioned by the BBC for the 1992 Proms

I "cobwebs of rain, fitfully slanting..." - II "The earth comes moist looking, and blackens..." - III "Dear, distant wife, here..." - IV "Returning, in the mind, still there..."

3(2.,3.pic).2.ca.2.bcl.3(3.cbsn)-4.3.3.1-timp.3perc(s.d, ten d, 2b.d, 2r. toms, sus cym, 2sizz cym, Chinese cym, h.h, wdbl, tempbl, 2tam-t, log d, xyl, vib, glsp, crot, tub bells, high bng, low bng, clav, cabaça, vibraslap)-hp.cel-str

25' 0"

Material on hire

Premiere: July 31, 1992 · London (UK)

Royal Albert Hall BBC Proms 1992

Thomas Allen, baritone · Conductor: Matthias Bamert · BBC Symphony Orchestra

Trackway of Time

for baritone and chamber orchestra (2014 - 2015) text from "The Clock-Winder" by Thomas Hardy (English)

Commissioned by the Durham University Orchestral Society to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the group's founding

2.0.2.2-2.0.0.0-perc(vib, crot, tam-t, bell-plate, b.d., vibraslap, wdblk)-str

11'0"

Material on hire

Premiere: June 15, 2015 · Durham (UK)

Durham Cathedral

Sir Thomas Allen, baritone · Conductor: Oliver Zeffman · Durham University Chamber Orchestra

Several Solo Voices with Orchestra or Instruments

The Dream of the Rood

for four voices and instrumental ensemble (2008)

Text freely adapted by the composer from the Anglo-Saxon poem (English)

 ${\it Co-commissioned by Liverpool Capital of Culture and The Hilliard Ensemble as part of the European Capital of Culture Programme 2008}$

1(afl, pic).0.ca.0.ssax.1(cbsn)-1.0.1.0-perc(crot, vib, mar, bell plate, sizz cym, Swiss cow bell, gong [horizontal], tam-t, 2 bng, 2slit drum, wood drum, 2cong, 2b.d, marac, 5tempbl, vibraslap)-hp-str(0.0.1.0.1)

30' 0"

Material on hire

Premiere: October 8, 2008 · Liverpool (UK)

Liverpool Metropolitan Cathedral

Hilliard Ensemble · Conductor: Clark Rundell · Ensemble 10/10

Viderunt omnes

Perotinus arranged by John Casken (2010) for four voices and ensemble (Latin)

0.2.2.ssax.2-2.0.1.0-perc(handbell, tub bell)-hp-str(0.0.1.0.1)

12' 0"

Material on hire

Premiere: July 6, 2014 · Morpeth, Northumberland (UK)

Brinkburn Priory

Brinkburn Music Festival 2014

Hilliard Ensemble · Conductor: Clark Rundell · Royal Northern Sinfonia

One or More Voices a cappella

Sharp Thorne · To the Lovers' Well

for four male voices (1991 - 2001)

text for Sharp Thorn by Sylvia Townsend Warner and anonymous (15th century) text for To the Lovers' Well by Geoffrey Hill and anonymous (medieval)

(English)

Sharp Thorne (1991-92), 7 minutes - To the Lovers Well (2001), 10 minutes

17' 0"

Ordernumber: ED 13010 (Performing score)

Premiere: March 3, 1992 · Durham (UK)

Durham Cathedral Hilliard Ensemble

(World premiere of Sharp Thorne)

September 3, 2001 · London (UK)

Victoria & Albert Museum

BBC Proms 2001

Orlando Consort

(World premiere of To the Lovers Well)

Voice and Keyboard Instrument

Chansons de Verlaine

for soprano and piano (2003 - 2006)

Texts by Paul Verlaine

(French)

I L'ombre des arbres (The Shadow of the Trees) - II Chevaux de bois (Merry-go-round) - III Colloque sentimental (Sentimental Conversation)

12' 0"

Ordernumber: ED 13182

Premiere: July 13, 2004 · London (UK)

Purcell Room

Alison Smart, soprano; Katherine Durran, piano

September 28, 2007 · London (UK) Wigmore Hall Patricia Rozario, soprano; Julius Drake, piano

la Orana, Gauguin

for soprano and piano (English, French)

17' 0"

Ordernumber: ED 11460

Lines from a Wanderer

for baritone and piano (2015 - 2016) texts by W. B. Yeats, Thomas Hardy and Robert Browning (English)

Commissioned by the Alnwick Music Society

I The Lake Isle of Innisfree (Yeats) - II The Discovery (Hardy) - III Night and Morning (Browning) - IV from The Italian in England (Browning) - V The Song of Wandering Aengus (Yeats)

22' 0"

Ordernumber: ED 13535

Premiere: November 29, 2016 · Alnwick (UK)

Alnwick Playhouse

Marcus Farnsworth, baritone; James Baillieu, piano

Night and Morning

for tenor and piano (2008) (English)

Commissioned for the 20th Anniversary of NMC Recordings

3' 0"

Ordernumber: ED 13271

Premiere: April 2, 2009 · London (UK)

Kings Place

NMC Songbook performances

Daniel Norman, tenor; Andrew Ball, piano

Voice(s) and Chamber Ensemble (2-12 instruments)

Firewhirl

A setting of words by George MacBeth (1979 - 1980) (English)

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"That night the sun burned late"
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sop. - fl. · cl. · bsn. - hn. - vln. · vla. · vc.
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17' 0"

