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Nigel OSBORNE

(b. 1948)



Photo by Robert Golden

Nigel Osborne was born in 1948. He studied composition at Oxford with Egon Wellesz and Kenneth Leighton, and in Warsaw with Witold Rudzinski. While in Poland, he co-founded one of the first live-electronic performing groups in Eastern Europe, and worked at the Polish Radio Experimental Studio, the beginning of a special relationship with electroacoustic music which continued with residencies at IRCAM in the 1980s and many works in the live electronic medium.

The core of his output, however, is ensemble music, which issued from a number of long-term collaborations: for example with the Ensemble 20jh of Vienna, with the London Sinfonietta, the Nash Ensemble, the Scottish Chamber Orchestra and the City of London Sinfonia. Larger orchestral pieces include Sinfonia 1 for the BBC Symphony Orchestra and for the Philharmonia Orchestra The Sun of Venice.

The theatre has always been an important focus for him. There has been a celebrated series of

music/dance collaborations with the choreographer Richard Alston — *Apollo Distraught*, *Wildlife*, *Zansa*, *Mythologies* — and in opera and music theatre he has worked closely with the director David Freeman in works such as *Hell's Angels*, *Faust*, *Morte d'Arthur* and the trilogy *Sarajevo*. In response to the last of these, he was invited in 1995 to create the first opera of the war in Sarajevo, *Evropa*, with a libretto by Goran Simic. Other work in the theatre has included *Terrible Mouth* and *The Electrification of the Soviet Union*, whilst his opera, *The Piano Tuner* — based on the best selling book of the same name by Daniel Mason — was toured to critical acclaim in the autumn of 2004 by Music Theatre Wales.

In 2007 Nigel Osborne wrote *Differences in Demolition*, to a libretto by the eminent Bosnian poet Goran Simić. This toured throughout Bosnia and Herzegovina and Scotland and was also at the City of London Festival. It was also in Srebrenica in December 2010, the first opera to ever be performed there. In December 2010 it was also invited to Vienna by the Organisation for Security and Co-operation for Peace (OSCE) for a performance at the Hofburg Palace.

He contributed in 2008 to a series of 5 short operas for Scottish Opera in his writing of *The Queens of Govan*, with improvisation by Wajahat Khan and text by Suhayl Saadi. He is currently working on a commission for a new opera with libretto by Ariel Dorfman, entitled *Naciketa*.

Nigel Osborne set up the Institute for Music, Human and Social Development in 2007, a joint project between the University of Edinburgh and Harvard University. He is currently Emeritus Professor at the University of Edinburgh.

LIST OF WORKS OVERLEAF

For more information on UYMP and our composers,
and for general inquiries, please contact
Tel: 01904 332434
e-mail: info@uymp.co.uk

For sales, hire and administration, please contact
Administrator: Claire Irwin
Tel: 01904 332434
e-mail: claire@uymp.co.uk

LIST OF WORKS

ORCHESTRA

Concertino for violin and orchestra (2003) 15'
ISMN M 57036 150 2 score: £30
performance materials for hire

Concerto for Oboe and Chamber Orchestra (1998) 25'
For solo oboe and chamber orchestra.
Solo oboe/2(1=picc,afl.2=afl).0.0.0 / 2.0.0.0 / strings
first performance: Nicholas Daniel, oboe, City of London Sinfonia, conducted by Richard Hickox, Cheltenham International Music Festival, 1998.
ISMN M 57020 647 6 score: £55
performance materials for hire

Concerto for Viola and Orchestra (2008) 16'
For solo viola and orchestra.
2(1=picc;2=afl).2(2=ca).2(1=cl in Eb; 2=bcl).2 / 2.2.2.0 /
perc / harp.pno / strings
ISMN M 570236 029 1 study score: £37

East (2005) 30'
For symphony orchestra.
ISMN M 570236 089 5 study score: £30
performance materials for hire

LARGE ENSEMBLE (8 OR MORE PLAYERS)

The Birth of Nacitekas (2009) 21'
Guitar Concertante: for guitar, Indian violin, tabla, string quartet, double bass, percussion.
first performances: Simon Thacker and the Nava Rasa Ensemble, Inverness and Edinburgh, 2009.
ISMN M-57036-136-6 study score: £25

Rock Music (2008) 20'
For flute (doubling picc/afl), oboe (doubling C.A), clarinet (Bb/Eb), horn, trumpet, trombone, percussion, harp, viola, cello, bass and electronic materials.
first performance: London Sinfonietta, Rock Music, Rock Art Festival, Kings Place, 2008.
ISMN M-57036-148-9 score: £55
performance materials for hire

SMALL ENSEMBLE (4-7 PLAYERS)

Balkan Dances and Laments (2001) 15'
For oboe, violin, viola, 'cello and piano.
ISMN M 57020 961 3 score: £30

La Belle Hélène (2004) 12'
For 3 flutes (doubling alto flute/ piccolo) and cello.
ISMN M 57036 132 8 score: £14

String Quartet No. 1 "Medicinal Songs and Dances" (1999) 23'
first performance: Medici Quartet, Norfolk and Norwich Festival, 1999.
ISMN M 57020 676 6 score: £25

Stargazing (2010) 11'
Three miniatures for string quartet.
Published jointly with Europa Edition.
ISMN M 90021 133 9 6 score: £8.99

Tiree (2009) 12'
For string quartet.
first performance: Arditti Quartet, Edinburgh International Festival, 2009.
ISMN M 57036 115 1 score: £25
ISMN M 57036 116 8 parts: £12

SOLOS, DUOS AND TRIOS

Botanical Studies (2001) 14'
For oboe and percussion.
ISMN M 57036 165 6 score: £18

Dialogue (2003) 13'
For oboe and harp.
first performance: Jinny Shaw (oboe) and Lucy Wakeford (harp), Okeanos ensemble, Cambridge Music Conference, 2003.
ISMN M 57036 140 3 score: £17

Journey to the End of the Night (2001) 8'
For oboe, percussion and electronics.
ISMN M 57036 166 3 score: £20

The Painters in my Garden (2011) 10'
For flute trio.
Commissioned by the Scottish Flute Trio.
first performance: Scottish Flute Trio, Paxton House, 19th July 2011.
ISMN M 57036 299 8 score £21

The Piano Tuner (2004) 15'
for violin, cello, piano.
Commissioned by the City of London Festival for the Piano Trio of Vienna.
first performance: Piano Trio of Vienna, City of London Festival, 2004.
ISMN M 57020 751 0 score and parts: £32

Roma Diary (2006) 12'

For cello and piano.
 ISMN M 57020 963 7 score: £20

Stone Garden 2 (2006) 14'38

For cello and accordion.
 first performance: Claudio Bohórquez (cello) and Merima Kljuco (accordion), City of London Festival, 2006.
 ISMN M 57036 131 1 score: £13

Taw-Raw (2004) 7'

for solo violin.
 first performance: Madeleine Mitchell, Huddersfield Contemporary Music Festival, St Paul's Hall 24th November 2011.
 ISMN M 57020 945 3 score: £14

Transformations 1 (2007) 11'

for two violas.
 ISMN M 57020 966 8 score: £13

Transformations 2 (2007) 11'

for solo oboe d'amore.
 ISMN M 57036 130 4 score: £14

VOCAL**Angel-Nebulae (2001) 15'**

for 3 tenors and bass.
 first performance: Red Byrd, Birmingham Early Music Festival, 2001.
 ISMN M 57036 133 5 score: £20

Pulsus (2005) 9'

for monochord, counter-tenor, tenors 1 & 2, and baritone.
 ISMN M 57020 946 0 score: £17

CHOIR, ACCOMPANIED**Afro-Scottish (2009) 45'**

for children's choir, SATB choir and jazz orchestra.
 first performance: Tapestry Radio Jazz Orchestra, Tapestry Conference, Royal Concert Hall Glasgow, 2009.
 ISMN M-57036-154-0 study score: £40

7 Words, 7 Icons, 7 Cities (2009) 23'

for choir and string orchestra.
 first performance: Scottish Ensemble and Tenebrae, conducted by Nigel Short, City of London Festival, 2009.
 ISMN M 57036 152 6 score: £24
performance materials for hire

CHOIR, UNACCOMPANIED**A Prayer and Two Blessings (2011) 8'**

for SATB choir
 Included in the Choirbook for The Queen published to celebrate the Diamond Jubilee of Her Majesty The Queen in 2012
 ISMN M 57036 311 7 score: £3.95

Naturtöne/ Abschied (2008) 8'15

for choir (soprano, alto, tenors 1 & 2, baritone, bass).
 Texts from the Prinzhorn collection of Psychiatric Art.
 first performance: Klangforum, Heidelberg, 2008.
 ISMN M 57036 142 7 score: £24
choral score for hire

OPERA**The Queens of Govan (2008) 15'**

Co-composition and improvisation for sarod by Wajahat Khan; text by Suhayl Saadi.
 for 2 flutes (dbl. picc & alto fl.), cor anglais, clarinet in Bb/bass clarinet in Bb, horn in F, tabla, sarod and tamera, mezzo-soprano solo, recorded voices, 2 violins, 2 violas, 2 violincelli, double bass.
 first performance: Scottish Opera, Wajahat Khan (sarod) and Elizabeth McCormack (mezzo-soprano), Oran Mor Glasgow, 2008.
 ISMN M-57036-028-4 score: £30

Differences in Demolition (A Sevdah Opera) (2007) 95'

Libretto by Goran Simić.
 for soprano or high mezzo, mezzo soprano, tenor and 2 baritones,
 with orchestra of clar in Bb (doubling clar in Eb & bass clar in Bb), percussion, accordion, machines 1 & 2, vln, vla, vc.
 World premiere: Opera Circus, dir. Lenka Udovički, produced by Tina Ellen-Lee, 9th June 2007,
 National Theatre, Mostar, Bosnia & Herzegovina
 ISMN M-57036-189-2 score: £150

SELECTED RECORDINGS



In Sunlight: Pieces for Madeleine

Includes: *Taw Raw*

Performed by Madeleine Mitchell (violin)

Label: NMC Recordings NMC D098

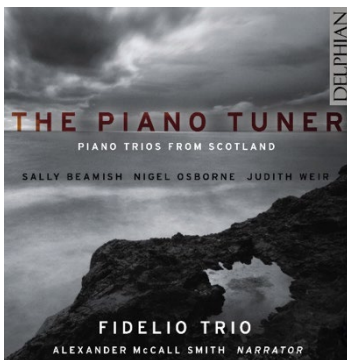


new noise: insomniac

Includes: *Botanical Studies*

Performed by Janey Miller (oboe)
and Joby Burgess (percussion)

Label:>NNL1



The Piano Tuner: Piano Trios from Scotland

Includes: *The Piano Tuner*

Performed by the Fidelio Trio (Mary Dullea, piano, Darragh Morgan, violin, Robin Michael, cello)

Label: DCD34084



Nada Ananda

Includes: *The Birth of Nacitekas*

Performed by Simon Thacker, Nava Rasa Ensemble, The Edinburgh Quartet

Label: Slap the Moon Records, STMRC01



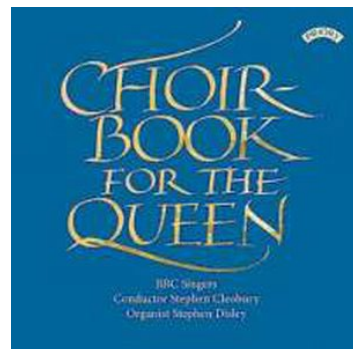
Encounters: new works from Edinburgh University

Includes: *Stargazing*

Performed by The Edinburgh Quartet (Tristan Gurney, Philip Burrin, violins, Michael Beeston, viola, Mark Bailey, cello)

Limited release by The University of Edinburgh.

Please contact UYMP or [Europa Edition Ltd](#) for more information on this disc.



Choirbook for the Queen

Includes: *A Prayer and Two Blessings*

Performed by BBC Singers (cond. Stephen Cleobury)

Released 3rd June 2013

Label: Presto Classical, PRCD1097