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## Paul MEALOR

(b. 1975)



Photo by Jillian Christie

Born in St Asaph, North Wales in 1975, **Paul Meador** studied composition privately, from an early age with John Pickard, at the University of York with Nicola LeFanu (BA 1997, PhD 2002) and in Copenhagen with Hans Abrahamsen and Per Nørgård. In 2003 he was appointed Lecturer in Music and Head of Composition at the University of Aberdeen.

Meador's compositions are performed around the world including major commissions from the BBC National Orchestra of Wales, Britten Sinfonia, Northern Sinfonia, Jeremy Huw Williams, Mika Takehara, Ian Pace and the Gemini Ensemble. His works are regularly broadcast on international radio, including Swedish Radio, New Zealand Radio, Danish Radio, Japanese TV and Radio, Australian Radio, S4C (Welsh TV), and the BBC (Radio Two, Three and Four).

In 1997 Meador established the Northop Festival of Music, which has gone on to become one of the most successful events in the North Wales Calendar and in 2005 created, in association with the BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra, the University of Aberdeen Music Prize for Composition. In October 2003 he was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts and in 2005 he was appointed Visiting Professor in Composition at New York University. Meador's Motet *Ubi Caritas* was performed at the Royal Wedding of Prince William to Miss Catherine Middleton, on 29th April, 2011, by the Choir of Westminster Abbey and the Choir of Her Majesty's Chapel Royal, St James' Palace. It was received with great acclaim throughout the world.

For Meador works not in our catalogue please contact Novello & Co.

### PRESS QUOTES

*"'Awesome' was the description one young concertgoer gave as his reaction to Mika Takehara's performance of **Echo** by Paul Meador. With the wonderful throbbing intensity of its drumbeats and its use of startling vocalisations by the performer the whole audience were rocking with excitement – and me too!"*

Alan Cooper – *The Leopard*

**For more information on UYMP and our composers, and for general inquiries, please contact**

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*'The highlight of the evening was Paul Mealar's **Elegy for a Play of Shadows**. [A] powerful and deeply moving monody for Cor Anglais and Ensemble. It is full of intense harmonic writing and wonderfully crafted tutti sections.'*

Edward Wainwright – *Music On The Web*

*'This refashioning of Mealar's 2010 composition **Now Sleeps The Crimson Petal** was commissioned by Prince William. The piece is lovely in itself ... Mealar's aesthetic ... features open tone clusters, extended chords, slow-moving harmonic changes and divisi voicing. These techniques minimize any sense of a home key, which creates a sort of ethereal dissonance that doesn't feel as if it needs resolving. In this idiom, the color of the sound is more important than the shape of it ...'*

*Los Angeles Times*

*'What next for Paul Mealar? Until last week he was a relatively unheard-of composer from North Wales. Now, after the royal couple chose his setting of Ubi Caritas as an anthem at their wedding, he's likely to find himself propelled into classical music stardom ... Expect to hear the name Paul Mealar a lot more.'*

Michael Bell – *The Independent*

*'One of the most important composers to have emerged in Welsh music since William Mathias [...] a real and original talent.'*

*New York Times*

*'Paul Mealar's Ubi Caritas was the real hit of the Wedding..... The Ubi Caritas setting they did this morning had an austere resonance of plainsong that then flowered into the kind of cloudy harmonic suspensions of a Morten Lauridsen or Eric Whitacre ... well put together and effective ... His Ubi Caritas was certainly the closest this wedding got to the nerve-touching John Tavener moment at the last big royal ceremonial that broadcast to the world ...'*

*The Telegraph*

## LIST OF WORKS

### CHOIR, UNACCOMPANIED

#### **'...And Profoundest Midnight Shroud the Serene Lights of Heaven...' (2003) 8'**

for 16-part mixed choir  
texts: Rilke & Shelley (all in English)  
commissioned by York Vocal Index  
first performance: York Vocal Index, directed by John Potter, Sir Jack Lyons Concert Hall, York, May 2002  
ISMN M 57036 283 7 choral score: £3.00

#### **The Lord's Prayer (2008) 2'**

for SATB (with divisi)  
ISMN M 57036 287 5 choral score: £2.00

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### VOICE AND 0-3 INSTRUMENTS

#### **'...of night and the stars...' (2001-02) 13'**

for baritone and piano  
texts: the Talmud, Dante, St John of the Cross (all in English)  
commissioned by Jeremy Huw Williams and Iwan Llywellyn-Jones  
first performance: Jeremy Huw Williams and Iwan Llywellyn-Jones, North Wales International Music Festival, St Asaph Cathedral, September 2002  
ISMN M 57020 895 1 score and part: £19.00

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### VOICE AND 4-7 INSTRUMENTS

#### **Till Time Shall Cease (2001) 10'**

for soprano and six instruments  
texts: Plath, Rilke, Rossetti and Lewis  
first performance: Olga Ostergaard and Ensemble C, the Basement, Copenhagen, 2001  
ISMN M 57020 893 7 score: £17.00  
ISMN M 57020 894 4 parts: £18.00

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## SMALL ENSEMBLE (4-7 INSTRUMENTS)

### Elegy for a Play of Shadows (2001) 7'

for cor anglais and five instruments (cl, pf, vn, va, vc)  
commissioned by the Britten Sinfonia  
first performance: Britten Sinfonia, St Edmund's Theatre,  
Canterbury, November 2001 conducted by Nicholas  
Cleobury

ISMN M 57020 886 9 score: £14.00

ISMN M 57036 281 3 score and parts: £31.00

### String Quartet (2002) 13'

commissioned by the Vale of Glamorgan Festival  
first performed by Chamber Domaine, Museum of Welsh  
Life, Cardiff, as part of the Vale of Glamorgan Festival,  
September 2002

ISMN M 57020 887 6 score: £14.00

ISMN M 57036 282 0 score and parts: £26.00

## SOLOS, DUOS AND TRIOS

### Borderlands (2004) 8'

for piano trio  
commissioned by the Chagall Piano Trio  
first performance: Chagall Piano Trio, University of  
Manchester, 2004  
recorded on Cameo 2053

ISMN M 57020 889 0 score and parts: £21.00

### De Profundis (2005) 12'

for organ  
commissioned by George Chittenden  
first performance: George Chittenden, St Patrick's  
Cathedral, Dublin, 6<sup>th</sup> August 2005

ISMN M 57020 892 0 score: £7.00

### Aurora Lucis Rutilat (2006) 5'

for organ  
composed for and premiered by Roger B. Williams at  
King's College, Cambridge, 28th October 2006

ISMN M 57020 973 6 score: £14.00

### Echo (2002) 5'

for percussion  
commissioned by the Swedish Arts Festival  
first performance: Mika Takehara, Stockholm, Sweden,  
September 2002

ISMN M 57020 888 3 score: £14.00

### Hidden Arias (2001) 5'

for oboe  
first performance: Melinda Maxwell at Dartington Hall,  
August 2001

ISMN M 57020 885 2 score: £7.00

### Shadows & Silhouettes (2005) 10'

for five-octave marimba (+ bamboo wind chimes)  
commissioned by Mika Takehara with funds provided  
by the Swedish Arts Foundation  
first performance: Mika Takehara, Stockholm, 2006

ISMN M 57020 891 3 score: £10.00

### Solemn Liturgy (2005) 5'

for clarinet  
written for Ian Mitchell  
first performance: Ian Mitchell, Aberdeen, February 2006

ISMN M 57020 890 6 score: £7.00

### Swing Slow (2006)

for two variable instruments  
part of 'On Track', UYMP's Grade 4-level Education  
Volume

ISMN M 57020 908 8 score and parts: £19.95

## MUSIC FOR CHILDREN AND AMATEURS

Swing Slow Solos, Duos and Trios

## SELECTED RECORDINGS



### Borderlands: Contemporary British Piano Trios

#### Includes: *Borderlands*

Performed by the Chagall Piano Trio

Released: August 2006

Label: Campion Cameo 2053