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George NICHOLSON

(b. 1949)



George Nicholson was born in County Durham in 1949 and studied at the University of York with David Blake and Bernard Rands, receiving his doctorate in 1979. For ten years he pursued a freelance career in London before being appointed Lecturer in Music and Director of Composition at Keele University in 1988. In January 1996 he took up the post of Senior Lecturer in Composition at Sheffield University.

His music has been performed by the London Sinfonietta, BBC Philharmonic, the Orchestra of St John's Smith Square and many other ensembles and orchestras. He has received several BBC commissions, including the *Cello Concerto* premiered by Moray Welsh. Nicholson was commissioned by James Galway to write the *Flute Concerto*. His work has been recorded on the

record labels Metier, Unknown Public, and the British Music Label.

As pianist he is a member of the chamber groups Triple Echo and Nomos, and also gives regular recitals with his wife, the soprano Jane Ginsborg.

LIST OF WORKS OVERLEAF

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LIST OF WORKS

ORCHESTRA

Cello Concerto (1990) 30'
cello and orchestra
3(2nd+afl, 3rd+picc).3(3rd+ca).3(3rd+bcl).3(3rd+cbn) / 4.3.3.1 /
4perc.pf(+cel).hp / strings
commissioned by the BBC
first performance: Moray Welsh and the BBC
Philharmonic, Sir Edward Downes (cond), Free Trade
Hall, Manchester, 25 January 1991
ISMN M 57020 275 1 score: £45
performance materials for hire

Concerto for Orchestra (2005) 37'
3.3.3.3 / 2sax: SA / 4.3.3.1 / hp.cel.2perc / strings
first performance: University of Sheffield Symphony
Orchestra, George Nicholson (cond), City Hall, Sheffield,
11 December 2005
ISMN M 57020 877 7 score: £60
performance materials for hire

The Convergence of the Twain (1978) 17'
2(2nd+picc).2(2nd+ca).2(2nd+bcl).2 / 2.2.0.0 / timp / 6.6.4.4.2
first performance: London Sinfonietta, Dominic
Muldowney (cond), St.John's Smith Square, 2 April 1981
ISMN M 57020 273 7 score: £40
performance materials for hire

Flute Concerto (1993) 30'
flute and orchestra
3(2nd+picc, 3rd+afl).3(3rd+ca).3(2nd+Ebcl, 3rd+bcl).3(3rd+cbn) /
4.3.3.1 / 3perc.hp / strings
commissioned by James Galway and the Zürich Tonhalle
Orchestra
first performance: James Galway and the Zürich Tonhalle
Orchestra, Zuohuang Chen (cond), Tonhalle, Zürich, 7
October 1994
ISMN M 57020 277 5 score: £60
performance materials for hire

Sea-Change (1988) 21'
string orchestra (5.4.2.2.1)
commissioned by John Lubbock and the Orchestra of St
John's for the 21st anniversary of the orchestra
first performance: conducted by John Lubbock, Norwich
Cathedral, 27 May 1988
ISMN M 57020 285 0 score: £37
performance materials for hire

WIND ORCHESTRA

Short Stories (2009) 21'
wind orchestra
ISMN M 57020 064 2 score: £25
performance materials for hire

LARGE ENSEMBLE (8 OR MORE PLAYERS)

Chamber Concerto (1979-80) 20'
1(+picc,afl).1(+ca).1(+bcl).1 / 1.1.0.0 / perc.pf(+cel).hp /
1.0.1.1.1
commissioned by the BBC
first performance: the London Sinfonietta, Lionel Friend
(cond), BBC 'Music in Our Time' broadcast, 27 May 1982
ISMN M 57020 279 9 score: £50
performance materials for hire

Fenestrae (1998) 11'
1(+afl).1.1.1 / 1.1.1.0 / vib(+mar).pf(+cel).gtr / 1.1.1.1.1
first performance: the University of Sheffield New Music
Ensemble, George Nicholson (cond), Firth Hall, Sheffield,
3 November 1998
ISMN M 57020 287 4 score: £21
performance materials for hire

Groundswell (2009) 5'
for 10 players (cl, hn in f, perc x3, vib, pno, vln, vla, vlc)
ISMN M 57036 123 6 score: £21
performance materials for hire

Salve Regina (2008) 11'
afl, oboe d'amore (or oboe), alto clarinet (or bcl), hn, vib,
vln, va, vc
first performance: the University of Sheffield New Music
Ensemble, George Nicholson (cond), St. Mark's Church,
Broomhill, 8 June 2008
ISMN M 57036 050 5 score: £17
performance materials for hire

Tableaux Vivants (2007) 9'
sop sax, hn, tpt, hp, gtr, perc / 1.1.1.1
ISMN M 57036 000 0 score: £32
performance materials for hire

SMALL ENSEMBLE (4-7 PLAYERS)

Ancient Lights (1982) 17'
1(+picc).0.2(both+bcl).0 / 0.0.0.0 / pf / 1.0.1.1.0
commissioned by Lumina for the 1982 Huddersfield
Festival with funds made available by Yorkshire Arts
first performance: Lumina, David Blake (cond), St.Paul's
Church, Huddersfield, 24 November 1982
ISMN M 57020 281 2 study score: £30
score and parts: £48

Movements (1982-3) 18'

cl(+Ebcl, bcl), bn, hn, 2 vn, va
 commissioned by the Koenig Ensemble with funds made available by the Arts Council of Great Britain
 first performance: the Koenig Ensemble and conducted by Jan Latham-Koenig, New Metropole Arts Centre, Folkestone, 11 March 1983
 ISMN M 57020 283 6 study score: £25
 score and parts: £37

Recueillement (2008) 10'30"

flute (alto flute), horn, viola and harp
 for Arpège
 first performance: Arpège, 26 February, Firth Hall, Sheffield
 ISMN M 57020 295 9 study score: £21
 score and parts: £38

Stilleven (1985) 13'

flute, bass clarinet, flugelhorn, violin, double bass
 commissioned by Lysis with funds made available by the Arts Council of Great Britain
 first performance: Lysis, Purcell Room, London, 14 January 1986
 ISMN M 57020 295 9 study score: £18
 score and parts: £28

Sonant formant morph (2006) 15'

bass clarinet, violin, viola, violoncello
 for performance by Gemini, 20 September, 2006 at the University of Surrey
 ISMN M 57020 943 9 study score: £20
 score and parts: £46

String Quartet No.1 (1976-7) 14'

first performance: the Medici Quartet, Sir Jack Lyons Concert Hall, York, 15 June 1977
 ISMN M 57020 289 8 study score: £21
 score and parts: £33

String Quartet No. 2 (1984-5) 20'

commissioned by Wolfson College, Oxford with funds from Southern Arts
 first performance: the Fairfield Quartet, Wolfson College, Oxford, 2 March 1985
 ISMN M 57020 291 1 study score: £20
 score and parts: £28

String Quartet No.3 (1995) 21'

commissioned by Keele Concerts Society with funds from West Midland Arts
 first performance: the Bochmann Quartet, Keele University, 5 February 1996
 ISMN M 57020 293 5 study score: £36
 score and parts: £56

Three Nocturnes (1986) 20'

clarinet in A (+Ebcl, bcl), violin, cello, piano
 commissioned by Quorum with funds provided by Greater London Arts
 first performance: Quorum, Purcell Room, London, 17 November 1986
 ISMN M 57020 297 3 study score: £25
 score and parts: £34

SOLOS, DUOS AND TRIOS**Autumn Journey (2005) 8'**

horn and harp
 first performance: Stephen Stirling and Christina Rhys, St James Piccadilly, London, 11 November 2005
 ISMN M 57020 906 2 study score: £24

Ave atque vale (1994) 6'

flute and piano
 first performance: Ben Pateman and George Nicholson, St Cyprian's Church, London, 4 November 1995
 ISMN M 57020 306 2 study score: £16

Bagatelles (2007) 20'

oboe (= oboe d'amore and cor anglais) and percussion
 commissioned by New Noise
 first performance: 13 February, Firth Hall, University of Sheffield
 ISMN M 57020 306 2 study score: £18
 score and parts: £24

Caesura (2007) 2'

horn, violin and piano
 written for the 'Crossing Continents' exchange between The Universities of Sheffield and Western Australia
 first performance: 20 March, Firth Hall, University of Sheffield
 ISMN M 57020 960 6 study score: £17
 score and parts: £28

Catch (2001) 5'

flute, clarinet and vibraphone
 first performance: University of Sheffield New Music Ensemble, Firth Hall, Sheffield, 27 November 2001
 ISMN M 57020 669 8 study score: £18

Darkening Green (2008) 4'

oboe and piano
 in memory of Wilfrid Mellers
 first performance: the University of Sheffield New Music Ensemble, St. Mark's Church, Broomhill, 8 June 2008
 ISMN M 57036 049 9 study score: £7
 score and parts: £9

Fills (2000) 13'
clarinet solo
first performance: Philip Edwards, The Warehouse,
London, 7 November 2000
ISMN M 57020 303 1 score: £14

Mister Biberian His Dompe(2004) 20'
solo guitar
first performance: Gilbert Biberian, Firth Hall, Sheffield, 9
March 2004
ISMN M 57020 746 6 score: £17

Mots Justes (1988-97) 32'
five inventions for piano
1. *Impromptu*
first performance: George Nicholson, Morley College,
London, 17 June 1988
2. *All systems go*
first performance: George Nicholson, Darlington Arts
Centre, 25 November 1989
3. *For Miles*
first performance: George Nicholson, Keele University, 27
February 1992
4. *Sung without words*
5. *In accord*
first performance: Peter Lawson, Firth Hall, Sheffield, 20
March 2001
ISMN M 57020 304 8 score: £24

N'est-ce pas...? (1979) 8'
for solo violin
first performance: Fiona Vanderspar, Purcell Room, 3
February, 1980
ISMN M 57020 986 6 score £13

Romanza (1987) 13'
violin and piano
commissioned by Miranda Fulleylove with funds
provided by Greater London Arts
first performance: BMIC, London, 13 April 1988
ISMN M 57020 307 9 score and part: £24

Shailing and Wambling (2001) 9'
viola and cello
ISMN M 57020 668 1 score and part: £16

So Low (1981) 9'
solo double bass
commissioned by Roger Dean
first performance: Stamford Arts Centre, 27 November,
1981
ISMN M 57020 985 9 score: £18

(termi)né (1995) 11'
two bass clarinets
commissioned by Das Klarinettenduo Zelinsky/ Smeyers
first performance: Alte Feuerwoche, Cologne, 26 October
1995
ISMN M 57020 305 5 score and part: £31

Winter Music (2008) 15'
clarinet in Bb, harp and percussion
ISMN M 57036 025 3 score and part: £26

VOICE AND 0-3 INSTRUMENTS

Colloque Sentimental (1976) 8'
soprano and harp
ISMN M 57036 026 0 study score: £18
score and part: £24

Letters to the World (1997-9) 30'
soprano, recorder, cello and harpsichord
first performance: Alison Wells, John Turner, Keith
Elcombe and Jonathan Price, Firth Hall, Sheffield, 12
March 2000
ISMN M 57020 301 7 study score: £36
score and parts: £51

VOICE AND 4-7 INSTRUMENTS

Along upon (2009) 8'
soprano, fl, cl, vib, pno, vn, va, vc
ISMN M 57036 119 9 study score: £20
score and parts: £41

Embers (2004) 8'
soprano, ob, cl, hn, vib, vn, va, vc
ISMN M 57020 852 4 study score: £20
score and parts: £34

Idyll (2003) 8'
soprano, flute, bass clarinet, piano, viola, cello
ISMN M 57020 852 4 study score: £20
score and parts: £30

Volte-face (2009) 3'30"
soprano, flute, oboe, violin
ISMN M 57036 125 0 study score: £10
score and parts: £16

VOICE AND 8 OR MORE INSTRUMENTS

Blisworth Tunnel Blues (1986-7) 38'

soprano and large ensemble
2(both+picc).2(1st+ob d'amr).3(all+bcl, 2nd+asax,
3rd+tsax).1(+cbn) / 2.0.1.0 / 2perc.pf(+cel).hp / 1.1.1.1.1
commissioned by Paul Webster for the Orpheus Ensemble
with funds made available by the Arts Council of Great
Britain

first performance: Jane Ginsborg and the Orpheus
Ensemble, conducted by Paul Webster, Almeida Festival,
27 June 1987

ISMN M 57020 299 7

score: £60

performance materials for hire

For Tess (2009) 6'

soprano and 9 instruments

ISMN M 57036 121 2

score: £18

performance materials for hire

CHOIR, UNACCOMPANIED

A World of Imagination (1984) 3'

for SATB choir

commissioned by the Choir of St James's, Piccadilly

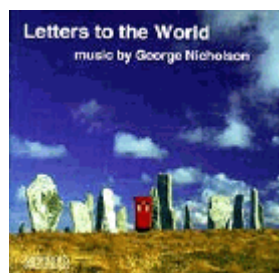
first performance: the Choir of St James's Piccadilly, Harry
Bickett (cond), 11 May 1984

ISMN M 57020 667 4

conducting score: £7

choral score: £3

RECORDINGS



Spring Songs; three pieces from Mots Justes; Nodus; Letters to the World

Performed by Peter Lawson (pf), George Nicholson (pf),
Philip Edwards (cl), John Turner (rec), Alison Wells (sop),
Jonathan Price (vc), Keith Elcombe (hpch)
Metier Records, MSV CD92062



String Quartet No.3

Performed by The Bochmann Quartet
Metier Records, MSV CD92016