

EPITAPH



for Organ

Phillip A. Cooke

EPITAPH

For Organ

(2014)

PERFORMANCE NOTES

Accidentals apply throughout the bar.

All manual and pipe suggestions are merely guidelines to the performer; all stops etc are at the discretion of the organist.

With thanks to Ed Jones in preparing the score.

In memoriam John Tavener (1944 – 2013)

First performed by Roger Williams at King's College Chapel, Aberdeen on the 04 November 2014 as part of the Sound Festival 2014

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|------------------------------|---|
| Duration: | 8 minutes |
| Cover photograph: | 'Russian Cross against Alaskan Sky' (www.orthodoxdetroit.com) |
| For more information: | www.phillipcooke.com |

PROGRAMME NOTE

Epitaph is based around simple harmonic devices and fragments that are varied throughout. The work is significantly coloured by the minor ninth harmony which is present in all the key moments of the piece. Although elegiac in tone, there are plenty of moments of warmer more contemplative music in this work and is perhaps more optimistic than other organ works of mine that inhabit the same territory (*Elegy*, 2003; *Lament*; 2012). The work is dedicated to John Tavener – although *Epitaph* has little similarities with his work, there is something of the deep benevolence of his music that informs my work.

PAC

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EPITAPH

for Organ

PHILLIP A. COOKE (2014)

Adagio sostenuto e teneramente (♩=c.60)

The first system of the musical score consists of three staves. The top staff is the right hand, the middle is the left hand, and the bottom is a grand staff. The key signature is three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and the time signature is 4/4. The tempo is Adagio sostenuto e teneramente with a quarter note equal to approximately 60 beats per minute. The dynamic marking is *pp* sempre. The music features a melodic line in the right hand with many slurs and ties, and a harmonic accompaniment in the left hand with sustained chords and moving bass lines.

poco rit. - - - - - A tempo

The second system of the musical score starts at measure 7. It features a change in tempo from Adagio sostenuto e teneramente to A tempo. The dynamic marking is *(man.)*. The music continues with the same melodic and harmonic textures as the first system, with a focus on sustained tones and a steady rhythmic flow.

The third system of the musical score starts at measure 13. The dynamic marking is *mp*. The music continues with the same melodic and harmonic textures, maintaining the sustained and expressive character of the piece.

poco rit. - - - - - poco più mosso (♩=c.72)

The fourth system of the musical score starts at measure 18. It features a change in tempo from poco rit. to poco più mosso with a quarter note equal to approximately 72 beats per minute. The dynamic marking is *pp*. The music includes a section marked *solo* and *p espress.* with a triplet of eighth notes. The bottom staff has a *(pp)* marking below it. The piece concludes with sustained chords and a final melodic flourish.

2

pochiss. rit. - - - -A tempo

23

mp

p

(ped.)

28

mp

p

(ped.)

Primo tempo (♩=c.60)

33

mf

pp

mf

poco accel. - - - -

38

cresc.

cresc.

poco più mosso (♩=c.72)

43

... *f*

mp [prestissimo]

(repeat over and over, regardless of the beat and the tempo)

... *f*

46

mf

ancora più mosso (♩=c.90)

50

f marc. *sub. mp sost.* *f marc.* *sub. mp sost.*

mp *mp*

meno mosso (♩=c.72)

55

f marc. [prestissimo]

mp

(repeat over and over, regardless of the beat and the tempo)

59

mf

ancora più mosso (♩=c.90)

62

f marc.

f marc.

pochiss. accel. - - - - - meno mosso (♩=c.72)

67

ff

sub. p sost.

ff

mp

Primo tempo (♩=c.60)

71

pp sempre

pp sempre

poco più mosso (♩=c.72)

76

Musical score for measures 76-80. The score is in G major (one sharp) and 3/4 time. It features a piano part with a melodic line in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand. The right hand starts with a 'solo' marking and a 'p espress.' dynamic. The left hand has a '(pp)' dynamic. Both hands feature triplet markings. The tempo is 'poco più mosso'.

pochiss. rit. - - - - A tempo

81

Musical score for measures 81-85. The score continues from the previous system. It features a piano part with a melodic line in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand. The right hand has a 'mp' dynamic. The left hand has a 'p' dynamic. Both hands feature triplet markings. The tempo is 'pochiss. rit.' leading to 'A tempo'.

86

Musical score for measures 86-90. The score continues from the previous system. It features a piano part with a melodic line in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand. The right hand has a 'mp' dynamic. The left hand has a '(mp)' dynamic. Both hands feature triplet markings.

91

Musical score for measures 91-95. The score continues from the previous system. It features a piano part with a melodic line in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand. The right hand has a 'cresc.' marking and a 'mf' dynamic. The left hand has a 'cresc.' marking and a 'mf' dynamic. Both hands feature triplet markings.

6

poco accel.-

A tempo

96

... *ff* *maestoso*

... *ff* *maestoso*

101

rit.

106

pp

Primo tempo (♩=c.60)

rit. al fine.

111

pp *sost.*

p *sost.*

116

dim. al fine.

... pp

Oldmeldrum, Old Aberdeen
April - June 2014