

EXSULTET



for Organ

Phillip A. Cooke

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for Organ

(2014, rev. 2024)

PERFORMANCE NOTES

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

Commissioned by the London Festival of Contemporary Church Music

Exsultet was first performed by Leon Charles as part of the London Festival of Contemporary Church Music 2014 at St Pancras Church, London, UK on the 14 May 2014 and broadcast live on BBC Radio 3 *Choral Evensong*

Duration:	6'
Cover photograph:	www.unsplash.com
For more information:	www.phillipcooke.com

PROGRAMME NOTE

Exsultet take its title from the opening line of the Easter Proclamation – the hymn of praise sung before the lighting of the paschal candle during the Easter Vigil. My work is an attempt to distil much of the exultation and rejoicing of this moment in the church year, but being fully aware of what has passed and what is still to come. *Exsultet* is essentially in a sort of Rondo form with the opening material returning in several different and progressively more complex guises, this is interspersed by slower, more reflective material with a characteristic arabesque fragment. The two groups of material gradually interfere with each other, and elements of one seeps into the other.

PAC

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Brillante e luminoso (♩ = c.76)

Musical score for measures 1-6. The piece is in G major and features a 3/4 time signature that changes to 2/4 and back to 3/4. The upper staff is marked 'Gt. *mf* sonoro' and the lower staff is marked '(man.)'. The dynamics range from *mf* to *f*. The music consists of arpeggiated chords in the right hand and sustained chords in the left hand.

Musical score for measures 7-12. The time signature continues to change between 3/4 and 2/4. The upper staff has a dynamic marking of *ff*. The lower staff has a dynamic marking of *ff*. The music continues with arpeggiated chords and sustained accompaniment.

meno mosso (♩ = c.60)

Musical score for measures 13-17. The piece changes to a 3/4 time signature. The upper staff is marked 'Sw. *p*' and the lower staff is marked '()'. The dynamics range from *p* to *ff*. The music features a more active bass line with eighth-note patterns.

Musical score for measures 18-22. The time signature changes to 2/4 and back to 3/4. The upper staff has a dynamic marking of *ff*. The lower staff has a dynamic marking of *ff*. The music continues with arpeggiated chords and sustained accompaniment.

Primo tempo (♩ = c.76)

23

Gt. *mf* *f*

16' *mf* *f*

3

meno mosso (♩ = c.60)

29

() *ff* *p*

(solo) Sw. *p*

() *ff* *p*

34

Primo tempo (♩ = c.76)

38

Gt. *mf* *mf*

() *mf* 3

4 43

f (*ff*)

f (*ff*)

meno mosso; molto sostenuto (♩ = c.60)

48

Sw. *pp*

pp

Primo tempo (♩ = c.76)

53

Gt. *mf*

mf

58

f

f

63 *ff* *ff* 5

meno mosso (♩ = c.50)

68 *Sw. pp* *mp*

Primo tempo (♩ = c.76)

73 *mp* *Gt. mf* *mf*

77 *f* *ff* *f* *ff*

meno mosso; maestoso (♩ = c.60)

6 82

Musical score for measures 82-86. The score is in G major and 3/4 time. It features a piano accompaniment with a melody in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand. The tempo is marked 'meno mosso; maestoso' with a quarter note equal to approximately 60 beats per minute. The dynamics range from *f* (forte) to *p* (piano). The key signature has one sharp (F#).

poco rit.

87

Musical score for measures 87-92. The score continues in G major and 3/4 time. It features a piano accompaniment with a melody in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand. The tempo is marked 'poco rit.' (poco ritardando). The dynamics range from *p* (piano) to *ff* (fortissimo). The key signature has one sharp (F#).

meno mosso (♩ = c.50)

93

Musical score for measures 93-98. The score continues in G major and 3/4 time. It features a piano accompaniment with a melody in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand. The tempo is marked 'meno mosso' with a quarter note equal to approximately 50 beats per minute. The dynamics range from *pp* (pianissimo) to *pp* (pianissimo). The key signature has one sharp (F#).

99

Musical score for measures 99-104. The score continues in G major and 3/4 time. It features a piano accompaniment with a melody in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand. The dynamics range from *pp* (pianissimo) to *pp* (pianissimo). The key signature has one sharp (F#).