

## More Eric Robertson Works Now Available from Counterpoint

We are very pleased to announce that Eric Robertson has agreed to allow Counterpoint to represent all his unpublished works as well as his works yet to be written.

Born in Scotland, but having spent most of his life so far, in Canada, composer/organist/pianist/record producer, Eric Robertson has two main segments of his output--film and television work, and choral, organ, chamber and symphonic work. It is this latter segment that Counterpoint will be representing.



Eric Robertson

Photo Colleen Burns

Eric has spent many years as a Music Director in Toronto Churches, Humbercrest United, St. Paul's Anglican and since 2009, Christ Church Deer Park Anglican. It was for the choirs of these churches that most of this work was created. Previously this body of work has not been readily available, and Counterpoint will now be filling this need for performers who want to present these pieces.

The following pieces can be obtained through Counterpoint: *Another Spring* (mixed chorus & string orchestra); *A Carol for Christmas* (mixed chorus and organ or S.A. with flute and piano); *Crossing Over* (mixed chorus, trumpet and organ); *Everyone Sang* (mixed chorus, a cappella); *Fanfare Etobicoke* (trumpet and organ); *Fanfayre* (mixed chorus and brass quintet); *Flos Aetatis (The Bloom of Youth)* (soli soprano & baritone, mixed chorus, a cappella); *Hauntings* (2 narrators & orchestra) --this is a really fun piece for Hallowe'en; *Un Instante Mystique* (mixed chorus, cello and opt. percussion); *Kyrie* (mixed chorus and organ); *Mass for St. Paul's* (mixed chorus and organ); *Missa Brevis* (mixed chorus and organ); *Passion Songs* - a group of 6 pieces which can be done individually or together (mixed chorus, piano, organ, guitar, percussion - each piece has different instrumentation); *Psalm 67* (mixed chorus and organ); *Psalm Prelude on "Caithness"* (solo organ); *The Spirit of Saint Giles* (organ and trumpet); *Tell Me the Old, Old, Story* (mixed chorus and piano trio); *The Goal* (narrator and brass quintet or wind quintet); *This is a House of Prayer* (mixed chorus, a capella); *Variations on the Sussex Carol* (mixed chorus and organ); *Voices* (a fantasy for solo organ).

Also represented from the Gordon V. Thompson catalogue: *A Boat Song*; *Four Songs of Remembrance*; *Ho Ro My Brown-Haired Maiden*; *Mairi's Wedding*; *My Faithful Fair One*. Information about all these are on our website and Online Store.

## Newly published posthumous works of Ralph Vaughan Williams by Oxford University Press

Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

In the fifty years since his death, Vaughan Williams has come to be regarded as one of the finest British composers of the 20th century. He has a particularly wide-ranging catalogue of works, including choral works, symphonies, concerti, and opera. His searching and visionary imagination, combined with a flexibility in writing for all levels of music-making,

## The Glenn Gould School Presents Canadian Premiere Erich Korngold's A Silent Serenade



Johnathon Kirby as Andrea Coclé, in A Silent Serenade

Photo Nicola Betts

Erich Korngold is mostly known now as a Hollywood film composer and for his Violin Concerto (premiered by Jascha Heifetz in 1947) which gets regularly performed by artists such as James Ehnes, Gil Shaham and Hilary Hahn. However, his stage works are rarely performed.

Having seen the delightful production of *A Silent Serenade*, performed for the first time in Canada, by The Glenn Gould School, of Toronto, in November, 2013, this work has been unjustly neglected. The operetta, a comedy set in Naples, focuses on a Dressmaker (Andrea Coclé) and his secret love of one of his clients, Sylvia Lombardi, who is engaged to the Prime Minister. Apparently there has been an attempted abduction of Sylvia. The Police Chief interrogates Andrea and manouvers him into admitting he was in Sylvia's garden at the time of the crime, although he protests that he was in the garden only for a serenade, a silent serenade.

The part of Sylvia was played by soprano, Beth Hagerman and the part of Andrea played by baritone, Johnathon Kirby, who both gave entertaining and enjoyable renditions of their parts. They were well supported by the enthusiastic performances of their fellow Glenn Gould School students. It was directed by Joel Ivany with Music Director, Peter Tiefenbach. This piece is economical to produce as the sets do not need to be elaborate and this production made inventive use of walls of cardboard boxes, as screens. The orchestral accompaniment is a small ensemble of ten. (fl.cl.tpt.2 perc. 2 pno. 2 vln. 1 cello).

Vaughan Williams, continued



Ralph Vaughan Williams

has meant that his music is as popular today as it ever has been. For Perusal scores and recordings, please contact us.

*Buccoli Suite* (1900), edited by Julian Rushton

First publication of Vaughan Williams' early work for orchestra, completed in November, 1900, and first performed by the Bournemouth Municipal Orchestra

in March, 1902. This attractive work is cast in four movements - Allegro, Andante, Intermezzo, Finale - and already shows evidence of the composer's emerging musical style and sure grasp of orchestral techniques.

2 fl (II+picc). 2 ob.2 cl.2 bsn./4 hn.2 tpt.3 tbn.tba./timp.perc. hp./ sts 20'

continued...

Vaughan Williams, continued...

**Serenade in A minor** (1898), edited by Julian Rushton

This is the first publication of Vaughan Williams' earliest substantial work for orchestra, composed 1897-8 and premiered in April, 1901. This attractive work already shows evidence of the composer's emerging musical style and sure grasp of orchestral techniques. Its five movements display much variety and sense of overall architecture, with a sombre opening Prelude, a fleet-footed Scherzo, a graceful Intermezzo and Trio, a delicate Romance, and a boisterous Finale.

2 fl.2 ob.2 cl.2 bsn./2 hn.2 tpt./timp./sts 30'

**Fantasia for piano and orchestra** (1902), edited by Julian Rushton

Vaughan Williams began this work--his earliest known piece for a solo instrument with orchestra--in 1896, shortly after returning to the Royal College of Music to study composition with Stanford, and completed it in 1904. After his death, the manuscript was donated to the British Library, and it was here that the pianist Mark Bebbington rediscovered it in 2010, subsequently recording it for Somm Records. The work shows influences of late nineteenth-century composers, but also hallmarks of the composer's later style and maturity. As such, it offers a fascinating glimpse into the composer's development, as well as being a powerful work in its own right. This is its first publication; a reduction for two pianos is also available on sale.

2 fl.2 ob.2 cl.2 bsn./4 hn.2 tpt.3 tbn.tba./timp.perc./sts 25'

**Flourish for Glorious John** (1957)

This work was written for Sir John Barbirolli to celebrate the 100th season of the Hallé Orchestra. It is a short colourful work, well-crafted and celebratory in nature. First performed - Manchester Free Trade Hall, October 16, 1957, Hallé Orchestra, Sir John Barbirolli.

picc.2 fl.2 ob.ca.2 cl.bcl.2 bsn.cbsn./4 hn.3 tpt.3 tbn.tba./timp. perc. hp.pno.org./sts Perc: cym, SD, BD, glock, bells 2.5'

**The Solent** (1903), edited by James Francis Brown

This is the first publication of an early work for chamber orchestra composed in 1903. The main theme from this work will be recognisable to many listeners, as it later found its way into both the Sea Symphony and the Ninth Symphony, albeit in a somewhat altered form. This duplication has intrigued many Vaughan Williams scholars, as has the quotation that prefaces the scores: 'Passion and sorrow in the deep sea's voice, A mighty mystery saddening all the wind?'

2 fl.ob.ca.2 cl.2 bsn./4 hn.2 tpt.2 tbn.tb. tba./timp./ sts 10'

**Harnham Down** (1904)

This work is the first publication of a previously little-known early work for chamber orchestra by Vaughan Williams. He started composing Harnham Down in 1904, completing the work in 1907. The score has been edited by James Francis Brown.

2 fl.ob.ca.2 cl.2 bn./4 hn./sts 6.5'

**Burley Heath** (1903)

Originally intended as the first piece in a cycle of four impressions entitled In the New Forest, Burley Heath was written in 1902 but never finished. The manuscript represents a 168 bar fragment, which James Francis Brown, the editor of this edition, has completed by inserting a recapitulation of the initial material.

2 fl.ob.ca.2 cl.2 bn./4 hn.2 tpt.timp./sts 5.5'

**Four Last Songs** arr. Anthony Payne

This work is an orchestration of Vaughan Williams' Four Last Songs for piano and voice, which sets poems written by his wife, Ursula Vaughan Williams. The orchestration was created by Anthony Payne for a BBC Proms world premiere in 2013.

voice + 2 fl.2 ob.2 cl.2 bsn./3 hn./cymbal.hp./sts 12'

**Norfolk Rhapsody no. 2** (1906)

Ralph Vaughan Williams originally wrote three Norfolk Rhapsodies with the intention of turning them into a three-movement Norfolk Symphony. This, the second rhapsody, is a telescoped slow movement and scherzo, which has been completed and edited by Stephen Hogger. The first has long been in the repertoire, but numbers two and three have not been played since 1914. The third rhapsody unfortunately didn't survive.

World Premiere in Japan, October, 2013. This will be available in the first quarter of 2014.

2 fl.2 ob.ca.2 cl.2 bsn./4 hn.2 tpt.3 tbn.tba.timp.trgl.hp./sts.

## Upcoming Premieres

### Jim McGrath - *Concertino for Cello*

Montreal Chamber Orchestra celebrates 40 years with a new work for cello by Jim McGrath - *Concertino for Cello* for solo cello and chamber orchestra, written for rising cello star, American, Cicely Parnas. First Prize Winner of the 2012 Young Concert Artists International Auditions, this 20-year-old cellist made her Carnegie Hall Debut in 2012 with the New York String Orchestra under the baton of Jamie Laredo.

This new piece is dedicated to his wife, Anita Levin, an enthusiastic amateur cellist. The first movement, beginning with a Bach-inspired arpeggiated passage, is "celebratory, joyous and youthful". The Second movement "begins with a more somber, elegiac approach, a reflection on mortality and the possibility of loss, and then is followed by a spirited, Russian-influenced dance, a nod to Anita's father's Eastern European heritage". In the final movement, "the cello plays a sinuous, seductive tune that undergoes a number of variations, followed by a cadenza reiterating the opening theme, then closing with a big finish with the orchestra".

Jim is known more for his film and TV work (most notably his Gemini-Award-Winning scores for the Degraffi Series), however he is building an impressive body of orchestral work. His *Suite Brillante* for solo flute and chamber orchestra, also written for the Montreal Chamber Orchestra, and flutist Leslie Newman, is getting international notice.

### Bramwell Tovey

#### *Pale Hands Beside the Shalimar*

Bramwell Tovey's latest piece is a work for solo piano and orchestra called *Pale Hands Beside the Shalimar*, written for the Orchestra dell'Università degli Studi di Milano, of Milan, Italy, a student orchestra. Founded in 2000, it has become, under its Music Director Alessandro Crudele, "one of the leading youth orchestras in Italy, representing a new venture in the Italian music scene." They regularly work with acclaimed conductors and soloists. Mr. Tovey will be both the conductor and soloist for this new work at Auditorium di Milano Fondazione Cariplo, Milan, January 14, 2014.

### Alessandro Annunziata

#### *Rhapsodie-Sérénade*

I Musici de Montreal will be giving the Canadian premiere of publisher, RAI Trade's composer, **Alessandro Annunziata's** piece *Rhapsodie-Sérénade*. This work for solo violin and string orchestra will be performed March 20-23, 2014, a total of 5 times, at Tudor Hall, Montreal. Soloist is Laura Andriani and conductor is Melanie Leonard. Annunziata writes melodic music that is interesting and enjoyable to listen to. You can listen to a number of performances of his works on YouTube, and I highly recommend you do.

### Malcolm Forsyth - *A Ballad of Canada to be performed on NACO UK Tour*

Malcolm Forsyth's last orchestral work, *A Ballad of Canada*, another of his tributes to his adopted homeland, is to be featured in the Fall, 2014 National Arts Centre Orchestra U.K tour, conducted by Pinchas Zukerman. HRH The Prince of Wales is to be the Patron of the upcoming tour. The UK premiere of this piece will be performed as part of the commemorations of the 100th anniversary of the beginning of World War I, and will be performed in London at a concert under the auspices of The Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, which is also directed by Pinchas Zukerman. Details to follow.

### Counterpoint Highlights available in PDF

This Newsletter is available in PDF format if wish to access the links more easily. Download the PDF version of this newsletter from our website, as well as the link to sound clips, on this page: <http://cpmusiclibrary.ca/highlights>