

Elliott Carter



Elliott Carter Photo © Meredith Heuer

FULL ORCHESTRA

Adagio tenebroso

1994

20 min

(second part of the orchestral triptych Symphonia: sum fluxae pretium spei)

3(II, III=picc).2.corA.2(II=Ebc).bcl.2.dbn-4.3.3.1-timp.perc(4):BD/
4bongo dr/glsp/4tpl.bl/cowbells/vib/2susp.cym/2tom-t/2wdbl/SD/xyl/
tam-t/marimba/wood drum/2metal block-pft-strings

World Premiere: 13 Sep 1995

Royal Albert Hall, London, United Kingdom
BBC Symphony Orchestra
Conductor: Andrew Davis

Allegro scorrevole

1996

11 min

(third part of the orchestral triptych Symphonia: sum fluxae pretium spei)

2.picc.2.corA.2(II=Ebc).bcl.2.dbn-4.3.3.1-perc(4):timp/glsp/xyl/vib/
4bongos/SD/2tom-t/wdbl/3susp.cym/2cowbells/guero/2metal blocks/
4tpl bl/BD/marimba-harp-pft-strings

World Premiere: 22 May 1997

Severance Hall, Cleveland, United States
Cleveland Orchestra
Conductor: Christoph von Dohnanyi

FULL ORCHESTRA 1

Anniversary

1989

6 min

(third part of the orchestral triptych Three Occasions)

Text: The second movement of Three Occasions for Orchestra, Anniversary was written as a dashing and affectionate present for his wife, Helen, on their golden wedding anniversary.

- Programme note by Paul Griffiths

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3(III=picc).2.corA.2.bcl.2.dbn-4.3.3.1-timp.perc(2):vib/marimba/xyl/
3susp.cym-pft(=cel)-strings(16.14.12.10.8)

World Premiere: 05 Oct 1989

London, Royal Festival Hall, United Kingdom
BBC Symphony Orchestra
Conductor: Oliver Knussen CBE

Boston Concerto

2002

19 min

for orchestra

3(II,III=picc).2.corA.3(III=bcl).3(III=dbn)-4.3.3.1-perc(3):xyl/vib/log dr/4bongos/high
SD/susp.cym/wood chime;mar/log dr/4tpl.bl/2cowbells/susp.cym;
BD/tom-t/4wdbls/guero/susp.cym/maracas/med SD-harp-pft-strings

World Premiere: 03 Apr 2003

Symphony Hall, Boston, Massachusetts, United States
Boston Symphony Orchestra
Conductor: Ingo Metzmacher

A Celebration of some 100 x 150 notes

1986

3 min

(first part of the orchestral triptych Three Occasions)

2.picc.2.corA.2.bcl.2.dbn-4.3.3.1-timp.perc(1):glsp/vib-pft(=cel)-
strings(16.14.12.10.8)

World Premiere: 10 Apr 1987

Jones Hall, Houston, Texas, United States
Houston Symphony Orchestra
Conductor: Sergiu Comissiona

FULL ORCHESTRA 1

Fons Juventatis

2004 3 min

for orchestra

1.2(II=picc).2.corA.2.bcl.3(III=dbn)-4.3.3.0-perc(3):xylorimba;guiro;small SD/maracas-pft-harp-strings

Micomicón

2002 3 min

for orchestra

2.picc.2.corA.1.bcl.dbcl.2.dbn-4.3.3.1-harp-pft-timp.perc(2):susp.cym/3 tom-t/BD/mar;crash cyms/xyl-strings

World Premiere: 15 Jan 2004

Symphony Hall, Boston, Massachusetts, United States

Boston Symphony Orchestra

Conductor: James Levine

More's Utopia

2004 3 min

for orchestra

1.2picc.2.corA.2.dbcl.2.dbn-4.3.3.1-perc(3):log dr/tpl.bls/wdbls/lg slap stick/xylorimba; tam-t/gong/4susp.cyms/vib; BD/tom-t-pft-strings

Partita

1993 17 min

(first part of the orchestral triptych Symphonia: sum fluxae pretium spei)

picc.2(II=picc).2.corA.2(II=Ebcl).bcl.2.dbn.-4.3.3.1-timp.perc(4);
2metal bl/2cowbells/2susp.cyms/2wdbl/4tpl.bl/wood dr/gavel/guiro/
4bongos/2tom-t/SD/BD/glsp/vib/xyl/marimba-pft-harp-strings

World Premiere: 17 Feb 1994

Chicago, IL, USA

Chicago Symphony Orchestra

Conductor: Daniel Barenboim

FULL ORCHESTRA 2

Remembrance

In memory of Paul Fromm
1988 7 min

(second part of the orchestral triptych Three Occasions)

1.2picc.2.corA.2.bcl.2.dbn-4.3.3.1-timp.perc.BD/glsp/vib-cel(=pft)-strings(minimum:16.14.12.10.8)

World Premiere: 10 Aug 1988

Tanglewood, United States

Tanglewood Music Center Orchestra

Conductor: Oliver Knussen CBE

Soundings

2005 10 min

for orchestra

picc.2(=picc).2.corA.2 (I=Ebcl,II=bcl).dbcl.2.dbn-4.3.3.1-timp.perc(2):xyl/tmpl.
blks/bongos/2susp.cyms/cowbell/low conga drums/2 tom-t/BD;claves/4wdbl/2SD/2
susp.cyms/log dr/2 low tom-t-pft-strings

"Soundings packs a lot of invention into its dozen minutes. Carter celebrates the two Barenboims, giving him music to play at the piano and a lot more music to conduct, but never at the same time... In between, Carter gives us a parade of rapidly shifting orchestral ideas: horn and woodwinds chopping up a darting phrase; the subterranean rumbles of contrabass clarinet; a twittering trio of piccolos; a pensive tuba solo that's actually longer than the entire piano part. Through it all, there's Carter the high-modernist artisan, delighting in the virtuosic sinew of a great orchestra he knows well."

Chicago Tribune

World Premiere: 06 Oct 2005

Symphony Center, Chicago, Illinois, United States

Chicago Symphony Orchestra

Conductor: Daniel Barenboim

FULL ORCHESTRA 2

Symphonia: sum fluxae pretium spei

1993-96

47 min

I. Partita II. Adagio tenebroso III. Allegro scorrevole

3(II,III=picc).2.corA.2(II=Ebcl).bcl.2.dbn-4.3.3.1-timp.perc(4):
xyl/glsp/SC/2tom-t/susp.cym/timp/2wdbl/4bongos/cowbell;2metal blocks (very high &
med
high)/4tpl.bl/3susp.cyms(high,med,low)/tom-t/2cowbells;vib/BD/4bongos/2tom-toms(me
d & low)/2wood blocks/SD/2susp.cyms(med &
low);vib/glsp/mar/tam-t/SD/susp.cym/BD/2bongos/wood dr (log
dr)/gavel/2tom-t-harp-pft-strings

9790051096244 **Orchestra (full score)**

World premiere complete: 25 Apr 1998

Bridgewater Hall, Manchester, United Kingdom
BBC Symphony Orchestra
Conductor: Oliver Knussen CBE

Three Illusions for Orchestra

2004

9 min

for orchestra (1. Micomicón 2. Fons Juventatis 3. More's Utopia)

3(II,III=picc).2.corA.2(II=bcl).bcl.dbcl.3(III=dbn)
-4.3.3.1-timp-perc(3):susp.cym/4tom-t/BD/mar/xylorimba/log dr/4 tpl.bl/4wdbl/lg
slapstick;cym/xyl/vibr/guero/tam-t/nipple gong/4susp.cyms/vib;
cym/xyl/vib/BD/4tom-t-pft-harp-strings

"An appealing orchestral showpiece..."

New York Times

"All three brief pieces are responses to literary fantasies - Micomicón to Don Quixote; The Fountain of Youth to Roman myth; and More's Utopia to Sir Thomas More's vision of an ideal society. The music is fantastical too... always surprising, inevitable, and vividly orchestrated. Micomicón is romantic and heroic; Utopia is dark and severe; Fountain is playful and takes a place in the great tradition of iridescent water music..."

Boston Globe

"...a three-part work that, in barely 10 minutes, is a thoroughly complete musical statement. The formal Micomicón, the playful Fons Juventatis and the formidable More's Utopia together form a kind of symphony that sounds both densely packed and delicately transparent at the same time."

Boston Herald

World Premiere: 06 Oct 2005

Symphony Hall, Boston, Massachusetts, USA
Boston Symphony Orchestra
Conductor: James Levine

Three Occasions for Orchestra

1986-1989

16 min

I. A Celebration... II. Remembrance III. Anniversary

3(II,III=picc).2.corA.2.bcl.2.dbn-4.3.3.1-timp.perc(2);vib/marimba/
xyl/3susp.cym/BD/glsp-pft(=cel)-strings(16.14.12.10.8)

9790051094806 **(Full score)**

World Premiere: 05 Oct 1989

London, Royal Festival Hall, United Kingdom
BBC Symphony Orchestra
Conductor: Oliver Knussen CBE