

James MacMillan



James MacMillan Photo © Eric Richmond / ArenaPAL

ENSEMBLE AND CHAMBER WITH VOICE(S)

The Beneficiaries

2009

1 min

for soprano, clarinet and piano

Text: Les Murray (E)

World Premiere: 25 Feb 2010

Purcell Room, Southbank Centre, London, United Kingdom
Jane Manning OBE, soprano; Jane's Minstrels

Lament of Mary, Queen of Scots

2008

5 min

for soprano, tenor, violin, cello and piano

Text: Robert Burns (E)

World Premiere: 16 Jan 2009

University of Glasgow, Glasgow, United Kingdom
Lorna Anderson, sop / Jamie MacDougall, ten; Haydn Trio Eisenstadt

ENSEMBLE AND CHAMBER WITH VOICE(S) 1

Parthenogenesis

2000

50 min

Scena for soprano, baritone, actress and chamber ensemble

Text: Libretto by Michael Symmons Roberts (E)

1.1.1(=bcl).dbn-2.0.0.0-perc(1):glsp/vib/tuned
gongs/2wdbl/5tom-t/2bongos/SD/BD/susp.cym/sizzle cym/2tam-t(sm,lg)
-harp-pft-strings(1.1.1.1.1 or string orch)-2tapes

"...rhapsodically lyrical music, soaring phrases floridly decorated at their end, together with flawlessly atmospheric orchestration and lacerating rhythmic drive..."
Glasgow Herald

World Premiere: 12 Sep 2000

Corn Exchange, Cambridge, United Kingdom
Lisa Milne/Christopher Purves/John Fulljames, dir; Britten Sinfonia
Conductor: James MacMillan

The Prophecy

(version for soprano and ensemble)

1997

8 min

for soprano and ensemble

Text: 'The Story of Deirdre', as translated by Kenneth Hurlstone-Jackson in 'A Celtic Miscellany' (E)

fl.Ebcl-trbn-perc(1):glsp/2tom-t/BD/susp.cym-vln.vlc

World premiere of version: 12 Mar 2001

Teatro alla Scala, Milan, Italy
Cristina Zavalloni, voice; Sentieri selvaggi

Raising Sparks

1997

34 min

6 songs for mezzo-soprano and ensemble

Text: Michael Symmons Roberts (E)

fl.cl-harp-pft-string quartet

"Based on a Hassidic creation myth, it depicts the outpouring of God's love into a clay vessel which explodes, showering the universe with scattered "sparks"... MacMillan's response is slow-moving, spare, intense: reminiscent of the dark but spiritually-directed music coming out of Russia..."

Independent on Sunday

9790060108211 (Full score)

World Premiere: 05 Oct 1997

Queen Elizabeth Hall, London, United Kingdom
Jean Rigby, mezzo-soprano; Nash Ensemble
Conductor: Martyn Brabbins

ENSEMBLE AND CHAMBER WITH VOICE(S) 1

Scots Song

1991

6 min

for soprano and ensemble

Text: The Tryst by William Soutar (Scots)

2cl-vla.vlc.db

World Premiere: 10 May 1991

Brighton, United Kingdom

Composers Ensemble

Variation on Johnny Faa'

1988

4 min

for soprano, flute (doubling piccolo), cello and harp

Text: Traditional (E)