

Brett Dean



Brett Dean Photo © Mark Coulsen

SOLO INSTRUMENT(S) AND ORCHESTRA

Ariel's Music

1995

25 min

for solo clarinet and orchestra

3(I,II=picc).2.0.3(II=dbn)-4.2.2.1-timp.perc(3):I=4susp.cym/4tom-t/4wdbl/tabor(or lg SD)/2tgl(sm,lg)/ratchet; II=4tom-t/t.bells/BD/SD/tam-t/glsp/whip/susp.cym; III=4susp.cym/crot/tamb/5tom-t-harp-pft(=cel)-strings(min.12.10.8.6.5)

"... a monumental and chillingly effective work, dedicated to Ariel Glaser, who died of AIDS in 1988 at the age of seven... The composer has uncommon skill in orchestration and describes a very emotional situation with contemporary music that is both sympathetic and powerful but never offensive." (Theodore Jahn, *International Clarinet Journal*, Feb 2000)

World Premiere: 29 Sep 1995

Concert Hall, Brisbane, Australia

Paul Dean, clarinet; Queensland Symphony Orchestra

Conductor: Markus Stenz

SOLO INSTRUMENT(S) AND ORCHESTRA 1

Etüdenfest

2000

10 min

for piano and string orchestra

pft-strings(9.0.3.3.1)

"*Etüdenfest* takes as its starting point a series of the simplest technical exercises that young string players learn. Imaginatively varied and built upon, these little studies are given incarnations that are as intriguing and tricky as the originals are tedious..." (Neville Cohn, *West Australian*, 17 Nov 2000)

"There was ecstasy and dread... It all adds up to a chilling experience, a kind of spiritual tremble, something of a shadow across a grave." (John Carmody, *Sun Herald*, 26 Nov 2000)

World Premiere: 10 Nov 2000

Concert Hall, Brisbane, Australia

Australian Chamber Orchestra

Conductor: Richard Tognetti

The Lost Art of Letter Writing

2006

38 min

for violin and orchestra

3(I,II=picc,II=af),2(I,II=corA),2(II=bcl).bcl.2(II=dbn)-4.2.ttrbn.btrbn.1-timp(=sm bells,toy bells etc).perc(4):I=marimba/steel dr/3susp.cym/med water gong/sm bells/toy bells etc; II=marimba/steel dr/3susp.Chin cym/sm tam-t/2tgl/rain maker/TD(or lg tom-t)/sm bells/toy bells etc; III=vib/glsp/3susp.cym/sizzle cym/tam-t/4tuned gongs/water gong(med-sm)/sm bells/toy bells etc; IV=glsp/crot(2octaves)/tamb/1 tuned gong/sm water gong/BD/pedal DB/4tom-t/SD/hi-hat/t.bells/sm bells/toy bells etc-harp-pft(prepared)-upright pft(=cel)-strings(14.12.10.8.6)

"Dean is certainly not one of those composers whose works disappear from the repertoire after their premieres... His writing is brilliant and at the same time perfectly playable for the string instrument. Zimmermann indulges in his solo part; he brings the lyrical passages to life with subtle reservation. *The Lost Art of Letter Writing* is a most sincere and substantial work – it is art which needs neither pretension nor gimmicks." (Shirley Apherop, *Financial Times*, 11 Mar 2007)

World Premiere: 08 Mar 2007

Philharmonie, Köln, Germany

Frank Peter Zimmermann, violin; Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra

Conductor: Brett Dean

The Siduri Dances

2007

10 min

Music for solo flute and string orchestra

World Premiere: 01 Apr 2011

BBC Hoddinott Hall, Cardiff, United Kingdom

Adam Walker, flute; BBC National Orchestra of Wales

Conductor: Thierry Fischer

SOLO INSTRUMENT(S) AND ORCHESTRA 1

Viola Concerto

2004

27 min

for viola and orchestra

3(I,III=picc,II=picc,af),2(II=corA),2(II=bcl),2(II=dbn)
-3.2.2.1-timp.perc(3):I=vib/5tom-t/SD/vibraslap/2tgl/sandpaper; II=xylo/s
tam-t/3chin.cym/5susp.cym/BD/tamb/5tuned gongs/3crot;
III=marimba/crot(2octaves)/wdbl/tpl.bl/chin.cym/lg
tam-t/cowbell/whip-harp-cel-pft-strings(12.10.8.6.5)

"Dean is a top-flight viola player as well as a upwardly mobile composer. His new Viola Concerto is a substantial affair, elegantly proportioned and full of colourful musical imagery." (Andrew Clements, The Guardian, 21 Apr 2005)

"Dean has written something as personal as one would expect. The haunting and arresting sounds are all his own, and bright colours suggest a strong connection to his country's landscape. Indeed, the peaceful close, in which the previously hectic solo viola emerges purified, evokes a lullaby in which the earth seems to be singing itself to sleep." (John Allison, The Times, 19 Apr 2005)

World Premiere: 15 Apr 2005

Barbican Hall, London, United Kingdom
Brett Dean, viola; BBC Symphony Orchestra
Conductor: Rumon Gamba

Water Music

2004

28 min

for saxophone quartet and chamber orchestra

solis sax,asax,tsax,barsax;
tp-t-perc(4):I=tam-t/vib/timp/susp.cym(sm,lg)/glsp/SD/BD/tuned gong; II=tam-t/sizzle
cym/sm susp.cym; III=crot/sm bells/med susp.cym/mark tree/med thundersheet;
IV=crot/sm bells/lg susp.cym/lg thundersheet(all perc play water bowls in different sizes
and water gongs)-pft(=MIDI keyboards)-strings

"Even as the instruments first come into view, a murmur ripples through the audience: a podium with a huge variety of percussion instruments and four water tanks equipped with hoses through which air is blown. Diffuse, computer-programmed sounds emanate from the keyboard and unusual techniques produce atmospheric shades from the strings and saxophones... Everything scintillates and vibrates, solidifies into a vivid body of sound, and then catapults a monstrous energy into the air. Bold rhythms roll over the music like waves... The audience was thrilled, congratulating the musicians with loud bravos." (Christine Gehringer, Badische Neueste Nachrichten, 16. Jun 2004)

World Premiere: 18 Mar 2004

Konserthus, Örebro, Sweden
Raschèr Saxophone Quartet; Swedish Chamber Orchestra
Conductor: Christopher Lyndon-Gee