

Brett Dean



Brett Dean Photo © Mark Coulsen

ENSEMBLE AND CHAMBER WITHOUT VOICE(S)

Dream Sequence

2008

16 min

Music for ensemble

1(=picc).1(=corA).1.bcl.1-2.1.btrbn.0-perc(2):
l=vib/crot(2octaves)/BD/tgl(sm)/sandpaper/lg sheet of newspaper(susp);
ll=marimba/SD/4tom-t/4susp.cym/sizzle cym/tam-t/rainmaker-harp-pft(=cel)
-strings(1.1.1.1.1)

World Premiere: 20 Jun 2008

Theaterhaus T1, Stuttgart, Germany
Radio-Sinfonieorchester Stuttgart des SWR
Conductor: Brett Dean

Eclipse

2003

20 min

for string quartet

"Eclipse was written in reaction to the 'Tampa Crisis' of 2001... The human drama at the heart of this power play is depicted programmatically throughout three unbroken movements... The members of Artemis held the audience in a lengthy silence after the quartet's last chord." (Lydia Steier, *Klassik-in-berlin.de*, Oct 2004)

"... a beautifully fashioned gem... Dean's range and control of textures is outstanding, giving Eclipse a remarkable sculpted beauty that dazzles the ear." (Graham Strahle, *The Australian*, 12 Jul 2004)

9790202531501 **String Quartet (Score & parts)**

World Premiere: 02 Dec 2003

Philharmonie, Köln, Germany
Aurn Quartett

ENSEMBLE AND CHAMBER WITHOUT VOICE(S) 1

Epitaphs

2010

20 min

for two violins, two violas and cello

"... the highlight has to be the world premiere of Dean's Epitaphs ... Der Philosoph, in memory of Jan Diesselhorst, featured an expansive and moving cello solo. By contrast, Gyorgy Meets the 'Girl Photographer', in memory of the American philanthropist and photographer Betty Freeman, was more a celebration for a life well spent than an outpouring of grief ... Hushed, even reverent at times, this was music that emanated from the heart. (Musicweb International, Jul 2010)

"Epitaphs is an individual and expressive work, with considerable technical challenges, but makes a superb and welcome modern addition to the string quintet repertoire." (Larence A. Johnson, *TheClassicalReview.com*, 17 Aug 2010)

9790202532348 **2 Violins, 2 Violas, Cello**

World Premiere: 12 Jul 2010

Pitville Pump Room, Cheltenham, United Kingdom
Brett Dean, viola / Australian String Quartet

Die Fledermaus

Overture

Johann Strauss, arranged by Brett Dean

8 min

arrangement for octet

cl, bn, hn, 2 vln, vla, vc, db

Night Window

1993

22 min

Music for clarinet, viola and piano

cl(=bcl)-vla-pft

"... a real tour-de-force in terms of instrumental scoring. Depicting human thoughts and behaviour at night time, the music surveyed a vast array of techniques and textures, as well as contrasts of moods ranging from sombre and reflective to hyperactive and wild... a substantial and interesting work." (Anthony Ritchie, *chambermusic.co.nz*, 29 Jul 2005)

"Night Window, which is influenced by a painting by Dean's wife and deals with states of mind after dark. It is an atmospheric piece skilfully scored and cleverly constructed which opens with wonderfully dark bass clarinet lines paired with dense viola writing, the piano is edgy and with often staccato sounds. It has a jazz and a thirties feel to some of the writing and is reminiscent of impressionistic French works of Milhaud and others such as the jazzy Martinu pieces of the time. It also brings to mind some of the great jazz wind soloists but all in a distinctive original package." (Garth Wilshere, *chambermusic.co.nz*, 17 Aug 2005)

9790202519936 **Clarinet or Bass Clarinet, Viola, Piano (Score & parts)**

World Premiere: 25 Jul 1993

Brisbane, Australia
Paul Dean, Brett Dean, Stephen Emmerson

ENSEMBLE AND CHAMBER WITHOUT VOICE(S) 1

Night's Journey

1997

12 min

for four trombones

9790202519912 4 Trombones

World Premiere: 04 Oct 1997

Bielefeld, Germany

Triton Posaunen Quartett

Polysomnography

2007

17 min

Music for piano and wind quintet

fl.ob.cl.bn-hn-pft

9790202532232 (Score & parts)

World Premiere: 07 Sep 2008

Lukaskirche, Luzern, Switzerland

Ensemble Wien-Berlin / Lars Vogt, piano

Recollections

2006

14 min

for ensemble

0.0.1.0-1.0.0.0-perc(1):BD/Pedal BD/3tom-t/SD/tam-t/4susp.cym/vib/3tuned
gongs(Bflat,B,C1)-pft-strings(1.0.1.1.1)

"Top-class chamber music – Dean's setting combines different aspects of memory: memory resonating in a single phrase, momentary shocks or mysterious reverie. He translated into a score how three gong strokes unfold their harmony and colour. The last movement features a quotation from Clara Schumann, held in suspense behind an 'avantgarde' veil – a wonderful artistic device from the composer, whose piece was cheered like a home victory." (Olaf Weiden, Kölnische Rundschau, 19 Jun 2006)

"Dean is a voice of fertile imagination, originality and expressive subtlety. Each of his six brief sections is ingeniously constructed for winds, strings, percussion and piano. Swirls of color pass in patterned array, while the final movement weaves a microtonal haze around a Clara Schumann piano piece, to wonderfully surreal effect. Recollections is a terrific score that goes by all too quickly." (John von Rhein, Chicago Tribune, 14 Jan 2009)

9790202532041 Mixed Ensemble (Study Score)

World Premiere: 18 Jun 2006

Kraftwerk, Heimbach, Germany

Sharon Kam, Marie-Luise Neunecker, Hans-Kristian Kjos Sørensen, Antje Weithaas, Hartmut Rhode, Tanja

Sextet

'Old Kings in Exile'

2011

20 min

for mixed sextet

flute, clarinet, violin/viola, cello, piano, percussion

"Dean made brilliant use of his unorthodox line-up of string trio with flute, clarinet and percussion... In all, a masterly achievement." (Ivan Hewett, Daily Telegraph, 05 Jul 2011)

"Low rumblings on a bass drum and edgy scraping from a violin with a paper clip fixed over one string rouse the music into action and from there it keeps rising in rhythmic energy and falling back again into a pit of primeval noises, each time reinventing itself with new material. It is an evocative work and skilfully crafted." (Richard Fairman, Financial Times, 05 Jul 2011)

World Premiere: 04 Jul 2011

Drapers' Hall, London, United Kingdom

Nash Ensemble

some birthday...

1992

14 min

for two violas and cello

"With some birthday... Dean shows his humorous side. This piece transports the old 'Happy Birthday to You!' into new and unexpected realms of expression. The result is preposterous, bewildering and extremely funny." (Berliner Morgenpost, 01 Jul 1994)

9790202521588 2 Violas, Cello

World Premiere: 04 May 1992

BKA, Berlin, Germany

Brett Dean, Walter Küssner, Anna Carewe

Testament

2002

14 min

for twelve violas

"Testament relates to Beethoven's desperate document written in Heiligenstadt. Bows without rosin whisper and scrape like Beethoven's erratic quill, quotes from the Rasumovsky Quartets and the Eroica flutter past in a shadowy manner, disturbingly like broken fragments in Beethoven's own failing ears. Dean's intimate experience with his colleagues, the instrument and the entire orchestra is composed into the work. The twelve instrumentalists, each with independent soloistic voices, sound together more like a hundred. This fascinating, multi-layered portrait-homage to the Berliners and their Beethoven style was the centrepiece of an electrifying concert." (Ellen Kohlhaas, Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung, 18 Jun 2003)

"Dean's Testament touched on Beethovenian profundity." (Sybill Mahlke, Der Tagesspiegel, 13 Jun 2003)

9790202530955 12 Violas

World Premiere: 11 Jun 2003

Philharmonie, Kammermusiksaal, Berlin, Germany
Philharmonische Bratschen Berlin

Three Pieces for Eight Horns

1998

14 min

9790202519905 8 Horns (Score & parts)

World Premiere: 27 Oct 1998

Philharmonie, Kammermusiksaal, Berlin, Germany
Horn players of the Berlin Philharmonic
Conductor: Brett Dean

Twelve Angry Men

1996

18 min

for twelve cellos

"Twelve Angry Men takes the expressive qualities of 12 cellos and casts them as musical versions of the 12 jurors in Sidney Lumet's 1957 film of the same name... It's a great starting point for a piece of music and Dean's fine musical instincts turned string sounds into palpable human drama." (Harriet Cunningham, Sydney Morning Herald, 17 Jan 2005)

World Premiere: 19 Feb 1997

Philharmonie, Berlin, Germany
Die 12 Cellisten der Berliner Philharmoniker

Voices of Angels

1996

26 min

for violin, viola, cello, double bass and piano

"This quintet occupies an emotional landscape that is rich in character, suggestive of the creatures the composer is celebrating, packed with quicksilver touches and also vehement and driving segments that reinforce the intended image of a different angel to the cherub of sentimental religiosity." (Clive O'Connell, The Age, 19 June 2002)

9790202519929 Violin, Viola, Cello, Double Bass, Piano (Score & parts)

World Premiere: 12 Jun 1996

Philharmonie, Kammermusiksaal, Berlin, Germany
Mi-Kyung Lee, Brett Dean, Ludwig Quandt, Esko Laine, Imogen Cooper

Wendezeit

(Homage to F.C.)

1988

5 min

for five violas

World Premiere: 09 Sep 2004

National Academy of Music, Melbourne, VIC, Australia
Students of the National Academy of Music
Conductor: Brett Dean