PREFACE

Contemporary music has always been the subject of controversy and strong feelings. However, in this important new collection of clarinet pieces you will find a treasure trove of fascinating music guaranteed only to delight and intrigue. As editor, my aim has been to add to our repertoire pieces that are stimulating and engaging, challenging, imaginative and tuneful – while remaining technically approachable. The composers have met this charge with consummate success.

There is much fun to be had in studying and performing these new pieces; I hope you enjoy playing them as much as I have! So, open the book and begin your voyage of discovery ...

Paul Harris, March 2002

COMPOSER BIOPICS

All contributing composers were asked to give their own personal responses to the following questions; of course their answers can only reflect their views now and will be everchanging:

Date and place of birth

Musical works that have most inspired you

Individuals who have most inspired you

What your piece means to you

A quote that you feel best describes your music in general

Your two favourite books

CHRISTOPHER GUNNING

Date and place of birth 05.08.44 Cheltenham.

Inspiring musical works

Symphony No 7, Jean Sibelius; Porgy and Bess, George
Gershwin arr. for Miles Davis by Gil Evans; Daphnis et
Chloé, Maurice Ravel; Symphony No 3, Witold Lutoslawski;

Das Lied von der Erde, Gustav Mahler.

Inspiring individuals Brian Trowell; Dudley Moore; Richard Rodney Bennett.

What your piece means to you My daughter Chlöe has often been reluctant to practise her

clarinet, but once she's started, usually enjoys herself. This piece is like that — tentative at first, but becoming more

enthusiastic.

A quote I like to portray emotions and characters in music, and that

partly explains why I have been drawn towards composing music for films and television. The twentieth century has provided me with a fantastic variety of idioms in which to work, and though I have no hesitation in using whatever methods feel appropriate, I always try to find the most direct

and simple way of achieving the desired result.

Two favourite books The Damp Garden, Beth Chatto;

Collected Poems (especially 'The Love Song of J Alfred

Prufrock' and 'The Waste Land'), T S Eliot.

RICHARD HARRIS

Date and place of birth 05.03.68 Kent.

Inspiring musical works Violin Concerto in D, Johannes Brahms; Romeo and Juliet, Sergey Prokofiev;

'Neptune' from *The Planets*, Gustav Holst;

Kenny Kirkland's jazz piano solo on the live album Bring On

the Night, Sting.

Inspiring individuals Charles Darwin; Branford Marsalis;

Dave Holland; Sachin Tendulkar.

What your piece means to you The opening theme started life in an unfinished viola piece

ten years ago. I am very happy to have presented a piece that feels simultaneously immediate and yet ten years in the making; and the title reflects the twists and turns of the

compositional journey!

A quote Music that needs writing about is like architecture that

needs dancing about.

Two favourite books Your Face Here — British cult movies since the Sixties, Ali

Catterall and Simon Wells;

To Kill a Mockingbird, Harper Lee.

Reef Singing



March

