

SCORE

Antiphony

For Wind Dectet and Piano



Berkeley Castle

Liz Lane

Antiphony – programme notes

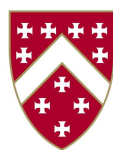
At the heart of Berkeley Castle in Gloucestershire is The Morning Room, formerly the Chapel of St Mary, where a glass cabinet displays the Berkeley family antiphony, a large and beautifully illuminated book of liturgical texts and chants dating back to about 1457, and the inspiration for the title of this work.

Berkeley Castle is the oldest building in the country still lived in by the same family who built it over 900 years ago. As a modern visitor, I was inspired by the historical timeline which traces the castle's history from its Norman origins to present day existence as a family home, tourist attraction and fairy tale wedding venue, imagining the many generations of visitors and their role at the castle. Influences in the music include the 18th or 19th century harness bells, displayed in the 14th century Buttery (used on horse drawn vehicles so that visitors could be heard in darkness or fog), a painting in the Picture Gallery 'Old Berkeley Hounds find in Bricket Wood', circa 1820 and The Great Hall, the magnificent centrepiece of the Castle, with its beautiful tapestries, stained glass windows and minstrel's gallery.

In 2002, a volume of Italian music manuscripts was discovered in the archives of Berkeley Castle. Amongst these were some Vivaldi arias (thought to be the only known copies), from his opera *La Costanza Degli-amori e de gl'odii* (The triumphant constancy of love and hate); excerpts from these are incorporated throughout the work in the cor anglais. The jaunty melody of *Dentro al sen del sol ch'adoro* (Deep within the sun that I adore) evolves from the texture towards the end of the piece, and other extracts quoted or alluded to are: *Lascia almen che ti consegna* (At least let you surrender), *Parto con questa speme* (I leave with this hope) and *Per Scorgere* (To forsee truth). I am very grateful to Mr David Smith, Berkeley Castle Archivist, for his research support, and to Mr John Berkeley for his permission to use quotations from these manuscripts.

Liz Lane, August 2012

www.lizlane.co.uk



BERKELEY CASTLE
www.berkeley-castle.com

INSTRUMENTATION:

Piccolo, Flute
Oboe, Cor Anglais
Clarinet in Bb, Clarinet/Basset Horn (alternative Eb
Alto or Bass Clarinet)
2 Horns in F
2 Bassoons (+ optional Contra Bassoon)
Piano



Berkeley family Antiphonary, 1457, Berkeley Castle

Duration: 8 minutes

Score is transposed

Antiphonary was commissioned for the Cardiff New Brass Festival 2011 and first performed by the Symphonic Brass of the RAF, Cardiff Metropolitan Cathedral, 10th June 2011.

This arrangement, for wind dectet and piano, was written for the Kammermusik Workshops open rehearsal at Berkeley Castle, 9th September 2012, followed by a workshop performance at St Edmund Hall, Oxford University.

The US premiere will take place in November 2012 by Chinook Winds, Seattle.