

NEWS SECTION

Composers

DAVID BEDFORD. *Fridiof Kennings* (première)—10 December / Purcell Room / Myrha Saxophone Quartet.

GEORGE BENJAMIN. Duo for cello and piano (première)—5 November / Carnegie Hall, New York / Ross Pople, George Benjamin; (U.K. première)—14 November / St. John's Smith Square / Pople, Benjamin. *Flight* for solo flute (U.K. première)—9 January 1981 / Wigmore Hall / Kate Lucas.

RICHARD RODNEY BENNETT. Harpsichord Concerto (première)—4 December / St. Louis, Missouri / Igor Kipnis, St. Louis SO c. Leonard Slatkin. *Puer Nobis* (première)—21 December / Haddo House, Aberdeen / Haddo House Choral and Operatic Society c. June Gordon.

BERNARD BENOLIEL. String Quartet (première)—4 January 1981 / BBC recording / Arditti Quartet (see also FERNEYHOUGH).

LUCIANO BERIO. *Il ritorno degli Snovidenia* (U.K. première)—12 November / Royal College of Music / Rohan de Saram, BBC Symphony Orchestra c. Nicholas Cleobury.

LEONARD BERNSTEIN. *Divertimento* (première)—25 September / Boston / Boston SO c. Seiji Ozawa. *A Musical Toast* (première)—11 October / New York / New York PO c. Leonard Bernstein. Bernstein has been commissioned to write a piano piece for the 1981 Van Cliburn Competition, and is composing a work for flute, strings and percussion entitled *Halil*.

JOHN CAGE. *Hymns and Variations* for 12 amplified voices (U.K. première)—1 October / Queen Elizabeth Hall / Sinfonietta Voices c. William Brooks.

CORNELIUS CARDEW. New work for 2 pianos (première)—13 March 1981 / Wigmore Hall / Susan Bradshaw, John Tilbury.

JACOB DRUCKMAN. *Animus IV* (U.K. première)—29 October / Royal College of Music / London Sinfonietta c. Richard Pittman

BRIAN FERNEYHOUGH. String Quartet No. 2 (première)—2 October / Venice Biennale / Arditti Quartet; (U.K. première)—4 January 1981 / BBC recording / Arditti

Quartet (see also BENOLIEL). Ferneyhough was Guest Professor of Composition at the Royal Conservatoire in Stockholm in November. He is working on a chamber symphony commissioned by the London Sinfonietta and a work for clarinet and digital computer commissioned by IRCAM.

MICHAEL FINNISSY. *Sir Tristan* (première)—15 December / St. John's Smith Square / Penelope Walmsley-Clark, Circle c. Gregory Rose. *Moon's gain' down* (première)—13 November / October Gallery / Fresh Ear.

JOHN FOULDS (d. 1939). *Quartetto Intimo* (London première)—4 November / Wigmore Hall / Endellion Quartet. *Temple Chant* (première)—17 October / Manchester, RNCM / Ensemble c. Timothy Reynish.

HANS WERNER HENZE. *Pollicino* (U.K. première)—16 December / Jeanetta Cochrane Theatre / Royal Opera c. David Syrus.

ROBIN HOLLOWAY. *Ode* (U.S. première)—6 November / Worcester, Mass. / English Chamber Orchestra. *Serenade in C* (U.S. première)—26 October / New York / Music Projects. Holloway has completed an *Idyll* for small orchestra, commissioned by the Northern Sinfonia.

OLIVER KNUSSSEN. *Where the Wild Things are* (première)—28 November / Brussels Opera.

GYORGY KURTAG. *Messages* (première)—14 December / Paris / Ensemble InterContemporain; (U.K. première)—18 February 1981 / Royal College of Music / BBC Symphony Orchestra c. Ronald Zollmann. *Omaggio a Nono* (première)—3 February / Queen Elizabeth Hall / BBC Singers c. John Poole.

WITOLD LUTOSLAWSKI. Double Concerto (U.K. première)—19 November / Royal Festival Hall / Heinz & Ursula Holliger, BBC Symphony Orchestra c. the composer.

ELIZABETH LUTYENS. String Quartet, op. 139 (première)—9 November / Edinburgh, Old Royal High School / Edinburgh Quartet.

NICHOLAS MAW. *The Ruin* (London première)—15 January 1981 / St. John's Smith Square / BBC Singers c. John Poole.

PETER MAXWELL DAVIES. *Solstice of Light* (London première)—3 February 1981 / Queen Elizabeth Hall / BBC Singers c. John

Poole. Symphony No. 2 (première)—26 February 1981 / Boston SO c. Seiji Ozawa.

DOMINIC MULDOWNNEY. *6 Psalms* (première)—6 December / West Sussex Philharmonic Choir.

ANDRZEJ PANUFNIK. *Paean* (première)—18 November / Royal Albert Hall / Royal Military School of Music, Kneller Hall. String Quartet No. 1 (première of new version)—7 November / Wigmore Hall / Locrian Quartet. Concertino for percussion (première)—24 January 1981 / Fairfield Hall / LSO c. Andre Previn; (U.S. première)—6 February 1981 / Pittsburgh / Pittsburgh SO c. Andre Previn.

GOFFREDO PETRASSI. *Grand Septuor* (U.K. première)—5 February 1981 / Wigmore Hall / Lontano.

FREDERIC RZEWSKI. *Winnsboro Cotton Mill Blues* (première of version for 2 pianos)—12 October / Round House / Ursula Oppens, Frederic Rzewski.

TONA SCHERCHEN-HSIAO. *Oeil de chat* (première of complete work)—5 November / Berlin / Berlin Radio SO c. Gilbert Amy.

HOWARD SKEMPTON. Giancarlo Cardini introduced Skempton's entire oeuvre for piano in the course of a recital at the 6th Bolzano Festival of Contemporary Music on 23 September.

IGOR STRAVINSKY (d. 1971). *Les Noces* (U.K. premières of first and second versions)—30 January 1981 / Royal Festival Hall / Palmer, Murray, Langridge, Tomlinson, London Sinfonietta c. David Atherton.

GILES SWAYNE. *Cry* (concert première)—9 October / St. John's Smith Square / BBC Singers c. John Poole.

JOHN TAVENER. *Palin* for piano (première)—13 March 1981 / Wigmore Hall / Annette Servadei.

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TONA SCHERCHEN-HSIAO Lò

for trombone and strings

World première: 9 April, St. Paul, Minnesota—
William McGlaughlin / St. Paul Chamber Orchestra
c. Dennis Russell Davies

European première: 4 June, Middelburg—Vinko Globokar /
Netherlands Radio Chamber Orchestra c. Ernest Bour

British première: 7 October, Queen Elizabeth Hall—Roger Williams /
Music Projects c. Richard Bernas

German première: 19 October, Donaueschingen—Vinko Globokar /
Netherlands Radio Chamber Orchestra c. Ernest Bour

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