

Richard Causton: BCMG premiere his *Chamber Symphony*

Causton's latest commission for the Birmingham Contemporary Music Group will be premiered by the ensemble, directed by Diego Masson, on **Friday 16 October** at the CBSO Centre, Birmingham.

Marking the season launch, the premiere will be part of an Italian-themed programme, also to include new works by Simon Holt and Vic Hoyland. With inspiration drawn from poetry and pictures by William Blake and Tippett's essay *Poets in a Barren Age*, in which he depicts the modern age as technologically advanced but imaginatively deprived, Causton's *Chamber Symphony* promises to be a characteristically stimulating work.



Richard Causton

photo: Katie Vandyck

Richard Causton writes:

'This piece is in two movements. The opening slow movement is made up of brass fanfares and woodwind chorales alternating with menacing, mechanistic episodes which gradually gather in weight and gravity, until they threaten to destroy the fabric of the music. From this conflict arises a second, fast movement whose initial exuberance gives way to a further confrontation, this time between the percussion and the rest of the ensemble, which is resolved in a concluding synthesis of ideas from earlier in the piece.'

Instrumentation:

fl(picc).ob(ca).cl(bcl).bsn(cbsn)-hn.tpt.tbn-perc(3 players*)-pno-str.

(* plus CD playing brief pre-recorded sections of the piece)

Duration: c.22 minutes

For further details and a full programme note, contact the Repertoire Promotion department on repertoire.promotion.uk@oup.com or +44 (0)1865 355021

Scores and parts available from the OUP Music Hire Library from October 2009:

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Tel: +44 (0)1865 353699 or 353323

Fax: +44 (0)1865 353767

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