

God-Child

For Matt, Kate, Damon and Ethan

About the work:

This piece was written in memory of my god-daughter who died aged only two months. Being involved with a SIDS (Sudden Infant Death Syndrome) death is a very difficult thing. One spends the initial months of a child's life getting to know them. Every gurgle, every movement, every expression, every sleep, every cry, every unfocused gaze is a revelation. But to then lose that marvel is dreadful. It is an end during the beginning.

And it is still today not fully understood. Which is why I ask all orchestras who perform this piece to donate a portion (however small) of their takings to their nearest SIDS foundation (if in doubt email the Sydney office: sydney@sidsaustralia.org.au). And my own royalties from the publication of this piece go directly to SIDS Australia.

This piece is short, lasting only just over 10 minutes. While serious and introverted in nature, the piece is celebratory. The powerful opening rises to establish the motif which pervades the rest of the piece – one of happiness despite the sadness and melancholy felt. After all, if such a short life does bring so many delights, even if sad at its ending, should we not be happy that it was such a perfect life? How many humans can claim they spent all of their lives making every person they knew happy?

- James Humberstone

Score edition II. Parts available.

Orchestration

2 Flutes
2 Oboes
2 Clarinets in Bb
Bass Clarinet in Bb
2 Bassoons
4 Horns
2 Trumpets (only 1 necessary)
2 Trombones (only 1 necessary)
1 Bass Trombone
1 Tuba
Timpani
Percussion: Bass Drum, Suspended Cymbal
Optional Tubular Bells and Marimba
Violins I
Violins II
Violas
Cellos
Double Basses

Recommended minimum 12 1st Violins, 12 Second violins, 8 Violas, 6 Cellos and 3 Double Basses.
2nd Trumpet and Trombone not compulsory, nor the optional Tubular Bells and Marimba parts. The Marimba part can also be played on a Xylophone.

For further information contact James Humberstone james@composerhome.com

God-Child

In memory of Jennifer Nancy Tomlinson 29.10.98 - 29.12.98

James Humberstone

Broadly **Lunga**

Flute 1, 2
Oboe 1, 2
Clarinet in B \flat 1, 2
Bass Clarinet in B \flat
Bassoon 1, 2
Horn in F 1, 3
Horn in F 2, 4
Trumpet in B \flat 1, 2
Trombone 1, 2
Bass Trombone
Tuba
Timpani (A \flat B \flat)
Bass drum
Suspended Cymbal
Optional Tubular bells
Optional Marimba (or Xylophone)
Violin I
Violin II (Divisi a 3)
Viola (Divisi a 3)
Violoncello (Divisi a 3)
Double bass (Divisi a 3)

p *mp* *pp*

10

The image shows a page of a musical score for a string ensemble, starting at measure 10. The score is written for Violin I, Violin II, Viola, Cello, and Double Bass. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 2/2. The music consists of long, sustained notes with slurs and dynamic markings. The dynamics include *pp* (pianissimo), *mp* (mezzo-piano), and *p* (piano). The score is organized into systems, with each instrument's part on a separate staff. The first system includes Violin I and Violin II. The second system includes Viola and Cello. The third system includes Cello and Double Bass. The fourth system includes Double Bass. The music features a mix of half and whole notes, often with slurs indicating phrasing. The dynamic markings are placed below the notes, and there are hairpins indicating volume changes. The page number '10' is located at the top left of the first staff.

20

Vln I

divisi a 5

f *ff* *p*

Vln II

f *ff* *p*

f *mp* *p*

Vla

divisi a 5

f *ff* *p*

f *ff* *p*

ff *mf* *p*

mp *p*

Vc

divisi a 5

f *ff* *p*

f *ff* *p*

ff *mf* *p*

mp *p*

Db.

f *ff* *p*

f *ff* *p*

This page of a musical score, numbered 27, features a variety of instruments including Bassoon (Bsn), Violin I (Vln I), Violin II (Vln II), Viola (Via), Violoncello (Vc), and Double Bass (Db). The score is written in a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature (C). The woodwinds (Bsn) and strings (Vln I, Vln II, Vc, Db) play a melodic line of eighth notes with slurs, starting at measure 27. The strings are marked with a piano (*p*) dynamic. The woodwinds also play a similar melodic line, with a *p* dynamic marking at measure 28. The string parts are divided into four groups, labeled "Divisi a 4". The Viola part consists of a steady eighth-note accompaniment. The Violoncello and Double Bass parts also feature a steady eighth-note accompaniment. The score concludes at measure 30.

80

Fl.
Ob.
Cl.
B. Cl.
Bsn.
Hn 1, 3
Hn 2, 4
Tpt.
Tbn.
B. Tbn.
Tba.
Timp.
B. D.
Cym.
Mar.
Vln I
Vln II
Vla.
Vc.
Db.

85

Molto Rit

Adagio

Breathe whenever necessary

mp

Molto Rit

divisi a 2

sub *pp*

divisi a 2

sub *pp*

177

Fl. *mp* *a2* *mf* 1st 2nd

Ob. *mp* *a2*

Cl. *mp* *a2* *mf* 1st 2nd

B. Cl. *mp*

Bsn. *mf*

Hn 1, 3 *mp* 1st 3rd

Hn 2, 4 *mp* 2nd 4th

B. Tbn. *mf*

Tbn. *mf*

Timp. *p* *mf*

B. D. *mp*

Mar. *mp*

Vln I *mp* *mf*

Vln II *mp* *mf*

Vla. *mp* *mf*

Vc. *mf*

Db. *mf*

188

Fl. *f*

Cl. *f*

Bsn. *f*

Hn 1, 3 *mf* 1st, 3rd

Hn 2, 4 *mf* 2nd, 4th

B. Tbn. *f*

Tbn. *f*

Timp. *f*

B. D. *mf*, *f*

Cym. *f*

Tub. B. *mf*

Vln I *f* Divisi

Vln II *f* Divisi

Vla. *f* Divisi

Vc. *f*

Db. *f*

197

Fl. *ff*

Cl. *ff*

Bsn. *ff*

Tpt. *ff*

Tbn. *ff* 1st: solo *f*

B. Tbn. *ff*

Tbn. *ff*

Timp. *ff*

B. D. *ff*

Cym. *ff*

Vln I *ff* Divisi

Vln II *ff* Divisi

Vla. *ff* Divisi

Vc. *ff*

Db. *ff*

206

Cl.

B. Cl.

Tpt.

Tbn.

Vln I

Vln II

Vla

Vc.

Db.

f

ff

sol *a2*

f

f

215

Fl.

Ob.

Cl.

B. Cl.

Hn 1, 3

Hn 2, 4

Tpt.

Tbn.

Mar.

Vln I

Vln II

Vla

Vc.

Db.

f

ff

a2

div.

f

ff

divisi

f

ff

f

ff

f

ff

f

ff

224

Fl. (div) 3 3 3 3

Ob.

Cl.

B. Cl.

Bsn. *ff*

Hn I, 3

Hn II, 4

Tpt. *divisi*

Tbn. *a2* *divisi*

B. Tbn. *ff*

Tba. *ff*

Timp. *ff*

B. D. *ff*

Tub. B. *ff*

Mar.

Vln I

Vln II

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

229

Fl.

Ob.

Cl.

B. Cl.

Bsn.

Hn 1, 3

Hn 2, 4

Tpt.

Tbn.

B. Tbn.

Tba.

Timp.

B. D.

Cym.

Tub. B.

Mar.

Vln I

Vln II

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

ff

If 3 notes not possible, miss out bottom note of each chord.

236

Fl. *mp* *fff*

Ob. *mf* *fff*

Cl. *f* *fff*

B. Cl. *fff*

Bsn. *fff*

Hn 1, 3 *mp* *fff*

Hn 2, 4 *f* *fff*

Tpt. *fff*

Tbn. *fff*

B. Tbn. *fff*

Tba. *fff*

Timp. *fff*

B. D. *fff*

Cym. *fff*

Mar. *fff*

Vln I *p* *fff*

Vln II *p* *fff*

Vla. *a2* *sub pp* *p* *fff*

Vc. *divisi* *sub pp* *p* *fff*

Db. *fff*