# FLOWING WATERS



## FLOWING WATERS music by Luke Whitlock

Suite Antique (2011-12) †  1 I. Allemande  2 II. Courante  3 III. Sarabande  4 IV. Gavotte	3:21 2:36 2:57 2:06	15:39
5 V. Minuet 6 VI. Gigue	2:22 2:16	
7 Flowing Waters (2014) †		11:15
Three Pieces for Wind Trio (2012, rev. 2014) ** 8 No. 1 As Shadows Fall	5:58	16:53
<ul><li>9 No. 2 Morning Escapades</li><li>10 No. 3 The Midnight Journey</li></ul>	4:02 6:52	
11 Evening Prayer (2014) †		5:32
Flute Sonata (2007, rev. 2013) * 12 I. Passionately, and with vigour 13 II. Slow, with much expression 14 III. Quickly, with much movement	6:32 6:58 3:59	17:31
15 The Faust and Mephisto Waltz (2002, rev. 2014) †		5:24
Total duration:		72:14
DUNCAN HONEYBOURNE piano † ANNA STOKES flute *, ** JAMES MELDRUM clarinet ** VICKY CROWELL bassoon ** WAI-YIN LEE piano *		



## THE MUSIC

The **Faust and Mephisto Waltz**, the earliest item included on this CD, is a humorous and satirical work I completed whilst working at the Royal College of Music. It is dedicated to the pianist Kalliopi Emmanuel, who gave the premiere performance in the concert hall at the RCM in 2003. Kalliopi and I were both students together at the college, and the original material for this work derives from music I composed for a silent film in 2000. At the time I was studying for my Masters in Composition for Screen, tutored by the renowned Joseph Horovitz.

Another musician I met whilst a student at the RCM was the flautist Anna Stokes. In later years I composed my **Flute Sonata** and dedicated this to Anna. I was very fortunate when writing this work to have the composer Andrew Downes as my compositional mentor, providing me with much support and inspiration. I also received invaluable input from the flautist Christopher Hyde-Smith and pianist Jane Dodd, who kindly workshopped this piece for me. As my first serious exploration of sonata form, the Flute Sonata shows my interest in similar works by Prokofiev and Poulenc.

The year 2007 was a significant year for me, when I moved to Wales to work for BBC Radio 3. In Cardiff I found a new compositional mentor, the composer Peter Reynolds, who has been of much support ever since. I've long had an interest in writing music for ballet and contemporary dance, so Peter suggested I might like to explore the world of more traditional dance forms such as the Gavotte and Minuet. And so my six movement **Suite Antique** was born. I took six traditional forms, and embellished or disrupted them, creating a number of idiosyncratic dances. The character of the Gigue, for example, is in keeping with my often mischievous humour.

**Suite Antique** was premiered by the pianist Duncan Honeybourne in Leominster in 2013, and it was he who then commissioned **Flowing Waters** which was funded by the Arts Council of Wales and Welsh Government. **Flowing Waters** is a depiction in music of the river Teign in Devon. As the river grows and gathers momentum, so the music quickens and intensifies until it reaches the sea. I lived in the village of Bishopsteignton as a child overlooking the Teign, and every day I'd wake to spectacular views of the river which have remained with me ever since. Another significant influence upon me from that part of the country was Dartington College of Arts where I studied as an undergraduate. I performed and explored a great deal of music by Steve Reich and Philip Glass whilst at Dartington, and you'll hear in **Flowing Waters** the unmistakable influence of minimalist music. Duncan premiered this programmatic work in Cardiff in 2014.

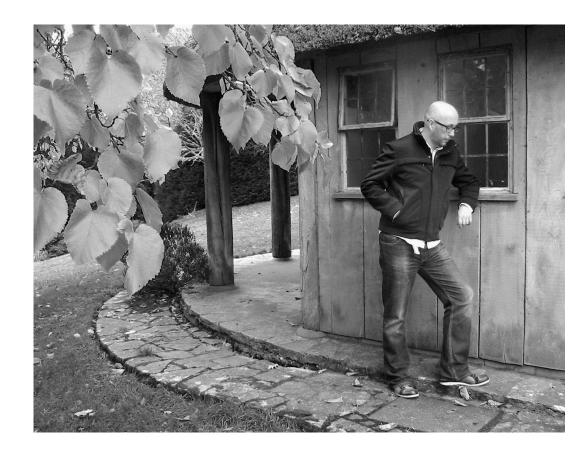
Returning to the village of Bishopsteignton, this is where I met John and Maggie Sullivan, and also Rita Hills. At one time I was considering the priesthood, and it was in part through Christianity that I got to know these three wonderful people, who have remained good friends ever since. **Evening Prayer** is dedicated to them. In more recent years I've regularly attended silent Buddhist retreats, as a means to refocus and ground myself, away from what can be a very busy and noisy life. Whether for meditation or prayer, I've found that silence can be restorative in many ways. **Evening Prayer** is a gift to my friends, a musical landscape including the sounds of distant tolling bells, providing a little moment in time (albeit not silent) for reflection and stillness.



Another concert in 2014 saw the premiere of my three movement **Wind Trio**, performed by Anna Stokes, James Meldrum and Vicky Crowell. This particular combination of instruments was great fun to work with, and certainly challenging, not least maintaining the harmonic textures I wished to create, whilst also providing the musicians with plenty of opportunity to breathe. These three movements are a collection of programmatic depictions as described by their individual titles, and can be performed together or separately. The trio was originally commissioned by a New Zealand based ensemble, but the premiere didn't take place in Auckland as planned, as the group soon disbanded. I did however hear them workshop this trio when I visited New Zealand, which is a country where the landscape provides so much inspiration for writing music.

I would also like to mention that this recording is in many ways a mark of my friends' and family's achievement, as much as it is mine. I'd like to thank them most deeply for all that they have done, in supporting my personal and professional development to date.

Luke Whitlock





#### THE COMPOSER

**Luke Whitlock** was born in Exeter in 1978 into a musical family. His father John Whitlock is a composer and Jazz musician, who has performed on the banjo and guitar with Nat Gonella, Pete Allen, Bruce Turner, Digby Fairweather and members of The Temperance Seven. From the age of three, Luke was involved in musical theatre, and soon after began studying the piano and clarinet. He started composing in his early teens and went on to study at Dartington College of Arts and then for his master's degree at the Royal College of Music. He also later gained a postgraduate certificate in education from the University of Plymouth.

Since leaving formal education Luke was employed by the Royal College of Music to programme and co-ordinate chamber events both at the college and at venues around London. He has also taught at the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama, and led workshops at Dartington College of Arts and for the National Youth Ballet of Great Britain.

Since 2007 Luke has been employed by the BBC, working on core Radio 3 strands including *Composer of the Week, The Choir, Discovering Music* and *Radio 3 Requests*. He regularly artistically plans and produces the Radio 3 lunchtime concert series at the annual Hay Festival, along with producing relays of concerts from the Three Choirs Festival, Cheltenham Music Festival, Bath International Music Festival, Gregynog Festival as well as other large scale projects including productions by Welsh National Opera and the BBC National Orchestra of Wales. Luke is also a feature maker for BBC Radio 4 and has produced a variety of programmes ranging from film music to the poetry of Queen Elizabeth I. More recently he has re-entered the world of education on top of this BBC career, undertaking further postgraduate research at the University of Aberdeen with the composer Paul Mealor.

For more information about Luke Whitlock, please visit www.lukewhitlock.com





#### THE MUSICIANS



Born in Dorset, **Duncan Honeybourne** won prizes at the Royal Academy of Music and the Birmingham Conservatoire, where he graduated with First Class Honours and later received the honorary award of HonBC for professional distinction. He also worked with John York and Fanny Waterman, and completed his studies on a Goldenweiser Scholarship in London with the Russian pianist Mikhail Kazakevich. Since his solo debut at Symphony Hall, Birmingham, and the National Concert Hall, Dublin, in 1998, he has established a rich and diverse career as pianist and educator and is most widely known as a leading interpreter of 20th century British and Irish piano music.

Duncan has played concertos and given recitals at many major venues and at leading festivals, and has broadcast frequently as a solo recitalist on BBC Radio 3 and in Ireland, Switzerland, South Africa, Australia and New Zealand. He has given many first performances of new works dedicated to him by celebrated composers, including John Joubert (Piano Sonata no.3), Sadie Harrison (Lunae and Shadows), the Andrew Downes Second Piano Sonata at Dublin's Hugh Lane Gallery in 2003 and the Downes Piano Concerto at Birmingham Town Hall in 2009.

Duncan's double CD of English and Irish piano music for EM Records was released in 2013 to warm critical praise; his discography includes the complete solo piano music of Moeran alongside works by Stanford, Vaughan Williams, Holst, Bax, Howells and more neglected figures such as Aloys Fleischmann, Greville Cooke, Archy Rosenthal and Thomas Pitfield.

Duncan's repertoire includes 25 different piano concertos and a broad spectrum of solo works, and he has partnered many distinguished artists in chamber music. He is a Tutor in Piano at the University of Southampton and Founder/Artistic Director of the Weymouth Lunchtime Chamber Concerts.



Flautist **Anna Stokes** has worked with numerous orchestras including the London Philharmonic Orchestra, Royal Scottish National Orchestra, BBC Concert Orchestra, London Concert Orchestra, Northern Sinfonia, Brandenburg Sinfonia, Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra and National Theatre Orchestra ('Light Princess' by Tori Amos) amongst others. She founded the Emanuel Ensemble in 2001 and they have since gone on to perform in recitals at a number of distinguished venues including the Purcell Room, Wigmore Hall, and Cadogan Hall. With the Emanuel Ensemble Anna released her debut CD in 2011, which was a combination of flute, cello and piano trio repertoire. Anna has performed in a number of duo recitals with the flautist Lisa Friend. In January 2014 they released a CD entitled 'Luminance - Solo & Duo Works for flute and piano', which was selected as 'Classic FM CD of the Week' in January 2014, chosen as David Mellor's Album of the Week with 5 Stars in the Mail on Sunday, and has since been aired on BBC Radio 2, BBC Radio 3, BBC London, Classic FM and RTE Lyric FM.

Chamber recitals Anna has previously given include solo and duo performances for the Qatar Foundation in Doha, the Beethovenhaus in Bonn, the Cheltenham Music Festival, and many other UK concerts performing amongst other things, solo concertos by Bach, Chaminade, Mozart, Quantz, Reinecke and Rouse. Anna has also given workshops in the UK, Hong Kong and Qatar, and assists on the annual Friend Flute Academy in London.



Anna was a scholar at the Purcell School of Music and was subsequently awarded a Foundation Scholarship to the Royal College of Music where she studied flute with Susan Milan and Stewart McLlwham. She was also selected to participate in the Sir James Galway International Masterclasses, Switzerland 2006-2008. Anna plays on a silver Powell Flute.



James Meldrum has fast established himself as an exciting and versatile clarinetist in the UK and Europe. After gaining both a first class BMus (hons) degree and an Advanced PGDip with distinction from the Royal College of Music, London, he currently holds the position of principal clarinet with the New European Ensemble in The Hague, and is pursuing a busy career as an orchestral and chamber musician, as well as a recital and concerto soloist.

James has performed with the Philharmonia Orchestra, the English Chamber Orchestra and the London Chamber Orchestra as well as being guest principal clarinet with international orchestras including Iceland Symphony Orchestra, de Filharmonie Antwerpen, the Young Janacek Philharmonic and the Kazakhstan Philhamonic Orchestras. He has collaborated with many renowned musicians including Levon Chilingirian, the Medici Quartet, Susan Danial, Melvin Tan and Elizabeth Watts, and has worked with composers including Helmut Lachenmann, Mauricio Kagel, Oliver Knussen, Magnus Lindberg, Kaija Saariaho and Joseph Horovitz.

As an avid chamber musician, James has performed all over the world and regularly works with Ensemble 360 (Sheffield), the Cavaleri Quartet and the Winterbrook Trio, and was featured in a Dutch prime time television series exploring contemporary music.

Bassoonist **Vicky Crowell** studied as a Junior Exhibitioner Scholar at the Royal College of Music Junior Department, before attending the Royal College of Music, London, as a Bassoon Scholar studying with Andrea de Flammineis, Sarah Burnett, Martin Gatt and contrabassoon with Martin Field. While at the RCM she participated in several Masterclasses in Germany with Dag Jensen, Klaus Thunemann and Sergio Azzolini. Following her graduation from the RCM, Vicky went on to study at the Musik-Akademie der Stadt Basel, Switzerland with the world-renowned bassoon virtuoso Sergio Azzolini.

Vicky has had trials for orchestral positions with the BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra, Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra and Royal Ballet Sinfonia, as well as working with the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra, Ulster Orchestra, and Bergen Philharmonic Orchestra amongst other professional orchestras.

**Wai-Yin Lee** was born in Hong Kong, and obtained her undergraduate degree in Piano from the Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts (HKAPA). In 2000, she was awarded a two-year scholarship from the Royal College of Music in London, and then went on to study for a Masters degree in Piano Performance at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama.

Following this Wai-Yin pursued her studies as a repetiteur on a City Educational Scholarship. She then was awarded a fellowship at the GSMD, and in the same year was also invited to join the National Opera Studio as a part-time repetiteur trainee. She is now currently working at the Royal College of Music as a repetiteur, as a coach for the RCM Opera School, and also as an official accompanist for the RCM entrance exams.

Wai-Yin has also worked for the Opera Holland Park, Grange Park Opera Company, English Touring Opera, Birmingham Opera Company, Longborough Festival Opera, European Opera Centre, Castleward Opera Company, English Pocket Opera, Pegasus Opera Company, Southgate Opera, British Youth Opera, European Chamber Opera and the National Opera Studio.



## THE RECORDING

Wind Trio recorded 8<sup>th</sup> June 2014 at Acapela Studio Engineers – Joe Marvelly and Lee House Flute – Anna Stokes Clarinet – James Meldrum Bassoon – Vicky Crowell

> Flute Sonata recorded 6<sup>th</sup> July 2014 at Acapela Studio Engineers – Joe Marvelly and Lee House Flute – Anna Stokes Piano – Wai-Yin Lee Page turner – Alex Thacker

Solo piano works recorded 20<sup>th</sup> September 2014 & 31<sup>st</sup> January 2015 at the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama (Dora Stoutzker Concert Hall) Engineer – Mike Frost Piano – Duncan Honeybourne Page turner – Charlotte Smallwood

Executive Producer – Luke Whitlock Mastering – Gethin John, Hafod Mastering

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## **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS:**

Many people have supported my debut album as a composer, but in particular I'd like to thank my parents John and Nicky Whitlock, Deborah Preston, Geoff Atkins, Carol Griggs and Mike Frost. Their unstinting assistance has been invaluable, and has meant a great deal to me.

I'd also like to thank the following:

#### PRIMARY SPONSORS

John and Nicky Whitlock, Charlotte Bray, John and Maggie Sullivan, Hannah Havas, Rita Hills.

#### **SUPPORTERS**

Deborah Preston, Vivien Roworth, Claire Coleman, Andrew and Cynthia Downes, Doug Orton, Guido Kunz, Chester Biscardi, Christina Macaulay, David Llewellyn, Tom Whyte, Geoff Atkins, Simone Madden-Grey, Millie and Clive Feldman-Sinclair, The Whitton Family, Iain McDonald, Joseph Horovitz, Joyce Clark (nan), Tim Kjeldsen, Viv Goldberg, Tricia Darling, Brett Riding, Adam Twine, Geoffrey Allen, Rachael and Philip Gee, Rhidian and Bethan Thomas, Hilary Richards, Dale Whitlock and Amanda Moseley, Andrea and Nobby Bray, John and Margaret Turner, Dr. Keith Whitlock, Florencia Clifford, Karen Denning, Nicola and George Oliver, Dana and John Goodhind, Łukasz Garus, Diane and Bob Parkhill, Debbie Wiseman MBE, Graham Musto, John Mitchell, Philip L. Scowcroft, Dr. Ron Vasey, Dr. Peter Hick, Dr. Andrew Mayes, Pam and Elis Pehkonen, Clive Jenkins, Peter Hope, Terry and Krysia Watson, Heike Roms and Mike Pearson, Amy and Stephen Wheel, Dr. Martin Ellerby, Judith James, Christopher Wright, John Crowe, Christopher Hyde-Smith and Jane Dodd, Ailsa Jenkins, Christina and Allan Dean, Laura Wright, Elaine Moore, Viv Wilson MBE, Pete Walton, Gillian Beattie Davis, Gay Hedani, Bethan Dew, Willa King, Jackie Roberts, Peter Reynolds, Ron and Hazel Ellway, Claire Walker, Georgia and Geoff and Nicholas Chatfield, Prof. Edward Gregson.

Luke



**Duncan Honeybourne at the recording session** 



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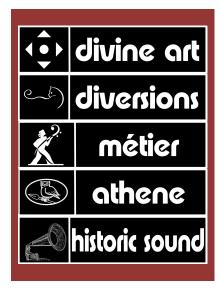
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