

EDWIN CARR

FOUR PIECES

Oboe d'amore (Cor anglais), Harp & String Orchestra



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AI OR 001

Edwin Carr

(1926-2003)

New Zealand composer Edwin Carr was born in Auckland in 1926 and spent a good deal of his life in Europe. He was a prolific composer and wrote four symphonies. There are many other orchestral works, ballets and pieces for chamber ensembles: a wind octet, two string quartets and a quartet for winds and piano. He composed two piano concertos, one for violin, three piano sonatas and a set of ten concert studies for piano. Much of Carr's output has been commercially recorded.

Edwin Carr lived on Waiheke, a large island in the Hauraki Gulf adjoining Auckland harbour. He was an eclectic composer and wrote in a diatonic-modal style as well as a modified serial system in which he sought to reinstate a more sensitive harmonic aesthetic.

Among his latter works was a commission for the New Zealand Symphony Orchestra based upon a monologue by one of New Zealand's best-known writers Bruce Mason. This was a seascape entitled *The End of the Golden Weather*.

In the summer of 1999, Edwin Carr was honoured by the Queen and awarded the MNZM, thus becoming a Member of the New Zealand Order of Merit.

He died on the 27th March 2003, aged 76, in his home on Waiheke Island.



Four Pieces

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This work was composed for Jennifer Paull during the years 1966-1967 and dedicated to her. It exists in the present version as well as another form in which the solo instrument is accompanied by piano (*A* SI 002). Each piece depicts a different style of movement and a contrasting mood.

March: The rhythmic element in this piece is quite conventional. Similarly with the other pieces in this work, the harmonic distortions and wayward melodic line are the dimensions, which give the effect of surrealism in terms of music.

Musette: A perfect fifth imitates the drone of bagpipes in the bass of this piece. There is a hint of the grotesque when the drone thickens and deepens.

Pastoral: A shepherd improvises on his reed-pipe. It is gentle and distant and at the end he falls asleep leaving the phrase unfinished.

Almain: Non-stop semiquaver movement underlines this near-parody of the Baroque German dance.

Edwin Carr
1997

Four Pieces

Recorded by Jennifer Paull, Oboe d'amore and Read Gainsford, Piano
The Oboe d'amore Collection Volume II (A SC VII)

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Works by Edwin Carr published by Amoris International

Two Mansfield Poems	A SI 003
Prelude & Aria ♦	A SI 004
Sonatina di maggio	A SI 009
Ngataringa Nocturne & Scherzo	A CM 003
Waiheke Island ♦	A EN 002
- A Suite for Oboe Consort	

♦ Recorded by Jennifer Paull, Oboe d'amore and Read Gainsford, Piano
The Oboe d'amore Collection Volume II (A SC VII)

♦ Recorded by Jennifer Paull and The Amoris Consort
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