

JULIAN ANDERSON

Prayer

FOR SOLO VIOLA

(2009)

FABER *ff* MUSIC

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Prayer was commissioned by the Nash Concert Society for the Nash Ensemble

The first performance was given by Lawrence Power at
the Wigmore Hall, London, on 5 March 2009

Duration: 8 minutes

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PERFORMANCE NOTES

Accidentals apply throughout a bar. Cautionary accidentals have occasionally been inserted for clarification. The following microtones are written:

♯¹ = ¼-tone sharp

♭¹ = ¼-tone flat

♭³ = ¾-tone flat

Where the ¾-flat sign precedes the seventh natural harmonic (bar 169 ff.), the flattening of the B^b is the normal result of fingering this harmonic.

+ = left-hand pizzicato. Where two stems are written for the same pitch, the left-hand pizzicato is played simultaneously with the bowed note (as in bar 11 ff.).

The passage of high natural harmonics (bb.161–175) is a necessarily approximate notation, due to the instability of high harmonics. The performer should aim for the written text, but in practice both rhythm and pitch details of this passage may differ from one performance to the next. The numbers above the pitches indicate the partials (these are natural harmonics towards the bridge).

PROGRAMME NOTE

This short piece explores the rich and varied tone of the viola, for which I've always had a special affection (perhaps originating from the fact that I was a very unpromising viola student in my early teens). The basic trajectory is an upwardly flowing melodic line, by turns contemplative and passionately lyrical, interrupted by a variety of other sonorities and contrasting episodes.

Prayer is dedicated to Ginny Macbeth, in gratitude and recognition of her tireless work on behalf of classical music generally and contemporary composers in particular.

J.A.

PRAYER

JULIAN ANDERSON

$\text{♩} = 54$ (as an echo) $\text{♩} = 108$ ($\text{♩} = 54$)

f espress. *pp* *ppp* *f energico* *sub. mp* *echoing*

6 *pp* *f* *sf* *mp sub.* *pp* *echoing*

9 *f più energico* *mp* *pp* *f ancora* *echoing*

12 *sf* *sf* *mp sub.* *echoing*

15 *pp* *f ancora* *ruvido* *più sost. ancora*

18 *sf* *sf* *sf* *sf* *sf* *II*

21 *sf* *cresc.* *ff vivo e molto ritmico*

24 *fff* *fff*

27 *gliss.* *pp* *ff* *sub. f sf* *sf* *sempre ritmico* *pizz. arco*

30 *mf legg.* *p* *f sf* *sf* *sf* *p* *mf* *f sf* *ritmico pizz.*

34 *sf* *sf* *mp legg., playful* *f ritmico* *ff*