

## PROGRAMME NOTE

*I saw Eternity* sets an evocative text by Henry Vaughan (1621–1695). I was inspired to compose the piece one evening whilst I was on tour in France conducting the Oxbridge Singers in 2010. I was greatly honoured that the choir received an invitation to give the piece its first performance just two days later in La cathédrale Saint-Samson de Dol-de-Bretagne. With close, high harmonies and gradual harmonic shifts, this piece for upper voices explores suspended dissonance and consonance.

I saw Eternity the other night  
Like a great Ring of pure and endless light,  
    All calm as it was bright  
And round beneath it, Time, in hours, days, years,  
    Driven by the spheres.

Henry Vaughan (1621–1695)

Duration: c. 4 minutes

*First performed in La cathédrale Saint-Samson de Dol-de-Bretagne, France  
by The Oxbridge Singers conducted by Alexander Campkin, July 2010.*

## I saw Eternity

Henry Vaughan (1621–1695)

Alexander Campkin

Eternally calm and bright ( $\text{♩} = \text{c. } 96$ )

Soprano

Mezzo-soprano

Alto

*pp* *mp* *mf* *p* *mf*

I saw E - ter - ni - ty, I saw

I saw E - ter - ni - ty, I saw

I saw E - ter - ni - ty, I saw

9

*f* *p* *f*

E - ter - ni - ty the o - ther night

E - ter - ni - ty the o - ther night

E - ter - ni - ty the o - ther night

20

*p* *mf* *f*

Like a great Ring of pure and end - less light,

Like a great Ring of pure and end - less light,

Like a great Ring of pure and end - less light,

Poco meno mosso ( $\text{♩} = c. 84$ )

29 *pp*

Calm, bright, calm

*pp*

Calm, bright, calm

*f dolce*

All calm as it was bright, All calm as it

36 *mf* *f*

bright, and round be - neath it,

*mf* *f*

bright, and round be - neath it,

*mf* *f*

was bright, and round be - neath it,

## Tempo primo

43 *pp* *mf* *pp* *mf* *p* *mf* *p*

Time, in hours, Time, in

*pp* *mf* *pp* *mf* *p* *mf* *p*

Time, in hours, Time, in

*pp* *mf* *pp* *mf* *p* *mf* *p*

Time, in hours, Time, in