

OLIVER KNUSSEN

Sonya's Lullaby

for piano solo

Op. 16

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for Michael Finnissy



A preliminary version of *Sonya's Lullaby* was performed by Michael Finnissy at the Galerie Schwarzes Kloster, Freiburg-in-Breisgau, on 10th October 1977. The definitive version was performed by Michael Finnissy at the Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam, as part of a concert in the series 'muziek van nu', on 6th January 1979.

Sonya's Lullaby is the central panel in a triptych of chamber works comprising *Autumnal* for violin and piano, Op. 14; *Sonya's Lullaby* for piano, Op. 16; *Cantata* for oboe and string trio, Op. 15. These pieces may be performed together or separately.

Duration: approx. 6 minutes

Performance Notes

- | | |
|---|----------------|
| (1) These notes should be held down by R.H. when the pedal is lifted at the beginning of bar 12. | page 3, bar 12 |
| (2) Throughout bars 13–24 the rhythmic relationships between L.H. pulse and R.H. figuration should be audibly apparent, and not smoothed over. | page 3, bar 13 |
| (3) As if interrupting the chord-sequence gently but firmly. | page 4, bar 22 |
| (4) 「 = play with left hand (m.s.); 』 = play with right hand (m.d.) | page 4, bar 21 |
| (5) The sforzando (lowest B–E) must not be loud, but should resemble a very distant detonation; the ‘shock waves’ (reverberation) colour the quiet music which follows (without caesura). | page 6, bar 42 |
| (6) Upper stave should appear to vanish, as if continuing in the same tempo after the ‘chord-sequence’ commences. | page 7, bar 57 |
| (7) The grace-note groups should be executed <i>molto rubato</i> within the indicated durations. Bar 59 should follow bar 58 without caesura. | page 7, bar 58 |
| (8) The durations must be pointed but not exaggerated (always in tempo), like the drowsy perception of a quite simple rhythmic pattern. | page 7, bar 59 |

SONYA'S LULLABY

Oliver Knussen, Op.16

Molto tranquillo ♩ = ca.48-52

← ♩ = ♩. →

Piano

pp *p* *ppp* *pp* *p cant.*

Ped.

3

mp *p* *p* *poco sf* *sub. pp*

Ped.

(6)

p *ppp* *pp* *p* *mp* *mp* *gently rocking*

Ped.

Ped.