

C. S. L. Parker

(b. 1961)

“The Orphic mysteries from the sixth century refer to Orpheus’ ability to charm all nature through music. I see my own work as the ability to perceive nature through music.”



C. S. L. Parker was born in England and moved to Ireland in 1982. He began his composition studies with Oliver Knussen and continued at the Royal College of Music in London with John Lambert.

His output includes solo piano, chamber, vocal and orchestral works. Recent compositions include the movie soundtrack for *Forty Shillin’ Shame* (2007), featuring the Cork School of Music Symphony Orchestra,

conducted by Geoffrey Spratt; *The Windmill Makers of Denholme* (2007) first performed in Beckfoot Grammar School, Bradford Yorkshire, England; *Twelve Songs for Seraphim* (2003-2004) which was premiered at St. Finbarr’s Cathedral, Cork in April 2004; *Twenty Four Songs* which was premiered at the Cork Opera House in October 2005 and a work commissioned by the Cork City Council and Cork Opera Works for the Year of Culture, *Ships and Waltzers* (2005).

He also writes extensively for film and works in this genre include music for the documentary drama, *Hold the Passion*, which was premiered in the National concert Hall in April 2001. The film *Poker Nights*, for which he composed the score, won the Best International Director’s Award in the 2007 New York Film Festival. Several of his orchestral works have been recorded on the Vienna Modern Masters label.

C. S. L. Parker is also active as a pianist and has performed throughout Ireland as well as in Israel, Egypt, India, China and Cuba. He holds a Masters Degree in Performance from the Cork Institute of Technology and currently teaches in the Cork School of Music.

Selected Works

ORCHESTRAL

Concert Suite from ‘Race the Drop’ (2007)

A film by Will Nugent

2222 4331 timp 2 perc pf+cel hrp str

MS 10’

Commissioned by South Tipperary Film Ensemble.

Forty Shillin’ Shame (2007)

A film by Will Nugent

sa 2222 4331 timp 2 perc pf/hrp cel str

MS 40’

Commissioned by Stemble Films.

String Symphony No.1 (2005)

Five pieces for string orchestra

str

MS 20’

Commissioned by John O’Brien.

Violin Concerto No. 4 (2003)

vn-solo, 2222 4331 timp 2 perc hrp pf str

MS 16’

Commissioned by Alan Smale.

State Side along the Highway (2003)

2222 ssax+tsax 4331 timp 2 perc pf hrp gui ebgui str

MS 90’

Organ Concerto No. 1 (2000)

org-solo, 2222 4431 timp 4 perc cel pf hrp str

MS

Hold the Passion (2000)

Music for a documentary drama

2222 2221 timp 2 perc pf hrp str

MS 40’

Commissioned by Focus Films.

Premiere: 21 April 2001. National Concert Hall, Dublin.

Dublin City Chamber Orchestra, conductor Eimear

Noone.

Recording: *Hold the Passion*. Dublin City Chamber

Orchestra, conductor Eimear Noone. Irish Contemporary

Film Music 2001. ICFMCD1.

Amazon (1999)

2222 4431 perc hrp pf+cel str

MS 5’

Violin Concerto No. 2 (1999)

vn-solo, 2222 4331 timp 2 perc pf+cel hrp str

MS 35’

Violin Concerto No. 1 (1998 - 2000)

vn-solo, 2222 4331 timp 3 perc pf+cel hrp str

MS 22’

Premiere: June 1998. Philharmonic Hall, Olomuc, Czech

Republic. Antonin Hradil (vn), Moravian Philharmonic,

conductor Toshiyuki Shimada.

Recording: *New Music for Orchestra* (1998). Antonin

Hradil (vn), Moravian Philharmonic, conductor

Toshiyuki Shimada. Vienna Modern Masters 1998. VMM

3047.

The Walk to Poolbeg Lighthouse (1998)

Lumen VII, No. 2
2222 4332 timp, 2 perc hrp pf+cel str
MS 5'
Premiere: 28 June 1998. Olomouc, Czech Republic.
Moravian Philharmonic Orchestra, conductor Jiri Mikula.
Recording: *New Music for Orchestra (1998)*. Moravian Philharmonic Orchestra, conductor Jiri Mikula. Vienna Modern Masters 1998. VMM 3045.

Selfish Minds (1998)

Incidental music for a film
2222 4331 3 perc hrp pf+cel str
MS 6'
Commissioned by John and Suzanne Conroy (producers).
Premiere: 30 June 1998. Philharmonic Hall, Olomouc, Czech Republic. Moravian Philharmonic Orchestra, conductor Jiri Mikula.
Recording: *New Music for Orchestra (1998)*. Moravian Philharmonic, conductor Jiri Mikula. Vienna Modern Masters 1998. VMM 3044.

Sinfonietta (1996)

2222 2200 timp 2 perc hrp pf+cel str
MS 16'
Premiere: June 1997. Second International Festival of New Music for Orchestra, Olomouc, Czech Republic. Moravian Philharmonic Orchestra, conductor Jiri Mikula.
Recording: *Music from Six Continents (1997)*. Moravian Philharmonic Orchestra, conductor Jiri Mikula. Vienna Modern Masters 1997. VMM 3041.

ENSEMBLE

The Castalia Quartets (2006)

Miniatures for String Quartet
2 vn va vc
MS 15'
Commissioned by the Castalia Quartet.
Premiere: July 2006. Wardour Castle, Wiltshire, England. Castalia String Quartet.

The Middle Kingdom (2001)

Sketch book for Violin Concerto No. 3
vn pf
MS 90'
Commissioned by Cora Venus Lunny and Tyrone Productions.
Recording: *The Middle Kingdom, Volume 1*. Claire Anne Lynch, Petra Lexova, Antonin Priboda and CSL Parker. Hill of the Rising Sun Records 2004. NICCMCD4.

SOLO INSTRUMENTAL

Lumen VIII (1993)

pf
MS 22'
Premiere: October 1993. Aula Maxima, National University of Ireland, Cork. C. S. L. Parker (pf).
Recording: *Lumen*. C.S.L. Parker (pf). Irish Contemporary New Music. ICNMCD2.

VOCAL AND CHORAL

Seraphim at Choga Zambil (2007)

Mez-solo, ssaa, pf bgui perc [vib]
MS 15'
Commissioned by Seraphim.

One Song for Una Palliser (2007)

Mez-solo, pf
MS 4'
Premiere: May 2007. Hollywood, Los Angeles, California.

The Windmill Makers of Denholme (2007)

satb fl 2 cl asax gui vn db dmkit pf, speakers
MS 30'
Commissioned by Denholme Primary School.
Premiere: Beckfoot Grammar School, Bradford Yorkshire, England

Ten Views of Clary Mastenbroek (2007)

S-solo, pf / S-solo, hrp pf db
Van Gorcun 45'
Commissioned by Fairbrook House Summer Concerts.

Two Movie Songs for Hannah Burke (2006)

Mez-solo, 2222 ssax 2 tsax 4331 timp 2 perc gui ebgui hrp pf str
MS 10'
Commissioned by System 48.

Exodus (2006)

Songs of migration
satb pf
Text: New Testament / The Koran
MS 60'
Commissioned by Honan Chapel, University College Cork and Cork Opera Works.

Trans-magic-locomotion (2005)

Mez-solo, sa, cl 2 asax 2 tsax barsax 4 tpt 3 trb burb perc gui ebgui pf
MS 6'
Commissioned by Cork Opera Works.

The Good Water Pool (2005)

Mez-solo, pf
MS 60'
Commissioned by Jessica Roth.
Premiere: August 2006. Fairbrook House, Kilmeaden, Co. Waterford. Charlotte Mahler (Mez-solo), C.S.L. Parker (pf).
Recording: *The Good Water Pool (2006)*. Hill of the Rising Sun Records. NICOMCD6

The Little King of Arabia (2004)

children's voices, pf
MS 60'
Commissioned by Helen McGrath.

Twelve Songs for Sonya Keogh (2004)

Mez-solo, satb, hrp, pf, bgui, str
MS 45'
Commissioned by Cork Opera Works.
Premiere: October 2005. Cork Opera House. Sonya Keogh (voice), C.S.L. Parker (pf).

Twelve Songs for Seraphim (2004)

ssaa, hrp-solo
MS 34'
Commissioned by Cork Opera Works.
Premiere: April 2004. St Finbar's Cathedral, Cork. Seraphim.
Recording: CMC Sound Archive.

Poker Nights (2003)

Incidental music for the film directed by John Conroy
A-solo, 2222 ssax 4331 timp 2 perc dmkit hrp pf bgui str
MS 25'
Commissioned by John and Suzanne Conroy.
Recording: *Poker Nights*. Cork School of Music Symphony Orchestra, conductor Geoffrey Spratt. Hill of the Rising Sun Records 2007. NICFMCD7.

Zerzura (2001)

The English Patient
Opera
S-solo, Mez-solo, 2 T-solo, 3 Bar-solo, satb 2222 4431 timp 2 perc hrp/pf/cel str
MS 150'

The True Loves of Fairylla (2001)

An Operetta
MS 50'
Premiere: July 2002. Meeting House Square, Temple Bar, Dublin. Opera Ireland.