

Aloys Fleischmann

(1910-1992)

‘It seemed vital to delve into the Hidden Ireland and, out of the heroic tales and romances, to create an idiom which would express in music some of the essence of this rich untapped literary tradition.’



Photo: Cork Examiner

Aloys Fleischmann was born in Munich to Irish-based German parents. He graduated from University College Cork with the degrees of BMus (1931) and MA (1932) and subsequently studied composition, conducting and musicology at the State Academy and University of Munich. In 1934 he

became professor of music at University College Cork, a post he held until his retirement in 1980. He was awarded a DMus degree by the National University of Ireland in 1963.

His compositions include large-scale works for chorus and orchestra, five ballets, a symphony, several song cycles and many chamber and solo works. As founder of the Cork Symphony Orchestra (1934), the Cork International Choral and Folk Dance Festival (1954) and a crusading member of many organisations and committees, he was a highly influential figure in musical life in Ireland. He has written several books and articles on music including his major work, *Sources of Irish Traditional Music* (1998). He was a member of the Royal Irish Academy and of Aosdána, Ireland's state-sponsored academy of creative artists. Other honours included the Freedom of the City of Cork, an Hon. MusD from the University of Dublin, the Order of Merit of the German Federal Republic and the Silver Medallion of the Irish American Cultural Institute.

Selected Works

ORCHESTRAL

Overture to Time's Offspring (1985)

2222 4231 str
MS 5'
Recording: CMC Sound Archive.

The Táin (1981)

Ballet music
2222 4231 timp 3 perc hrp str
MS 25'
Commissioned by Irish Ballet Company.
Recording: CMC Sound Archive.

Introduction and Funeral March (1960)

3333 4331 4 perc hrp str
MS 16'
Premiere: 28 February 1961. Phoenix Hall, Dublin. Radio Éireann Symphony Orchestra, conductor Aloys Fleischmann.
Recording: CMC Sound Archive.

Macha Ruadh (1955)

A Ballet in Two Scenes
2222 4231 3 perc hrp str
MS 20'
Premiere: 11 May 1955. Opera House, Cork. Cork Ballet Company, Cork Symphony Orchestra, conductor Aloys Fleischmann, choreographer Joan Denise Moriarty.

An Cóitín Dearg (1950)

Ballet music.
3222 4231 timp 2 perc hrp str
MS 27'
Premiere: 28 May 1951. Cork Opera House. Cork Ballet Company, Cork Symphony Orchestra, conductor Aloys Fleischmann. Choreographer Joan Denise Moriarty. Scenario, decor, costumes: Micheál Mac Liammóir. .
Recording: CMC Sound Archive.

The Four Masters (1944)

2222 4231 3 perc hrp str
MS 17'
Commissioned by Radio Éireann for the concert commemorating the tercentenary of the Four Masters.
Premiere: 25 June 1944. Gaiety Theatre, Dublin. Radio Éireann Orchestra, conductor Aloys Fleischmann.
Recording: CMC Sound Archive.

ENSEMBLE

Cornucopia (1969)

hn pf / hn-solo, 2222 2200 timp 2 perc hrp pf str
MS 10'
Commissioned by the Dublin Festival of Twentieth Century Music.
Premiere: 8 January 1970. Dublin Festival of Twentieth Century Music. Neil Sanders (hn), Lamar Crowson (pf).
Recording: CMC Sound Archive.

Piano Quintet (1938)

MS 20'
Premiere: 28 April 1939. Clarence Hall, Cork. Kutcher String Quartet, Tilly Fleischmann (pf).
Recording: *Frederick May, Aloys Fleischman: Chamber music.* RTE Vanbrugh Quartet, Hugh Tinney (pf). Marco Polo 1996. 8.223888.

SOLO INSTRUMENTAL

Nocturne and Toccata for Carillon (1958)

MS 7'
Commissioned by the Cobh International Carillon Festival, Cork.
Premiere: 1958. Cobh International Carillon Festival, Cork. Staf Gebruers (car).

Suite for Piano (1933)

J. & W. Chester Ltd. / JWC 2228 13'
Premiere: 1934. State Academy of Music, Munich. Aloys Fleischmann.
Recording: Charles Lynch / Piano Volume One. Charles Lynch (pf). NIRC 1971. NIR001.

VOCAL AND CHORAL

Games (1990)

satb, hrp, perc
MS 11'
Commissioned by the Cork International Choral Festival, 1990.
Premiere: 6 May 1990. Seminar on Contemporary Choral Music, Cork International Choral Festival, University College Cork. BBC Singers, Sheila Larchet-Cuthbert (hp), James Hynes (perc), Noel Herraghty (perc), conductor Simon Joly.
Recording: CMC Sound Archive.

Clonmacnoise (1986)

satb, 2222 2221 2 perc hrp str audience
Cumann Náisiúnta na gCór / CNC 32 21'
Commissioned by the Choir and orchestra of University College Cork.
Premiere: 3 May 1990. Cork International Choral Festival, City Hall, Cork. Choir and Orchestra of University College, Cork, RTE Concert Orchestra, conductor Geoffrey Spratt.
Recording: CMC Sound Archive.

Time's Offspring (1985)

Cantata based on the writings of Bishop Berkeley
satb, 2222 4231 str, speaker
Text: Bishop Berkeley
MS 20'
Premiere: 25 August 1985. Bishop Berkeley Tercentenary Concert, St Colman's Cathedral, Cloyne, Cork. Canon H.G. Watts (speaker), East Cork Choral Society, conductor Colin Nicholls, Cork Symphony Orchestra, conductor Aloys Fleischmann.

Omós don Phiarsach (1979)

Homage to Pádraic Pearse
Mez-solo, 3333 4331 3 perc hrp str speaker
Text: Pádraic Pearse
MS 12'
Commissioned by RTE to mark the Pádraic Pearse Centenary.
Premiere: 18 November 1979. Gaiety Theatre, Dublin. Bernadette Greevy (Mez-solo), Bill Golding (speaker), RTE Symphony Orchestra, conductor Colman Pearce.
Recording: CMC Sound Archive.

Festival Song (1978)

satb, 2222 4331 4 perc str
MS 3'
Commissioned by the Cork International Choral Festival, 1978.
Premiere: 3 May 1978. Cork International Choral Festival, City Hall, Cork. Massed Festival Choirs, Cork Symphony Orchestra, conductor Aloys Fleischmann.

Tides (1973 rev. 1977)

medium voice, 2121 2110 2 perc hrp hpd str
MS 10'
Commissioned by the Dublin Festival of Twentieth Century Music.
Premiere: 10 January 1974. Examination Hall, Trinity College, Dublin. June Croker (Mez-solo), Gerard Shanahan (pf).
Recording: CMC Sound Archive.

Poet in the Suburbs (1973)

satb [div.]
OUP 6'
Commissioned by the Cork International Choral and Folk Dance Festival, 1974.
Premiere: 24 April 1974. Seminar on Contemporary Choral Music, City Hall, Cork. BBC Northern Singers, conductor Stephen Wilkinson.

Mass (1972)

ssa [children's], org
MS 12'
Premiere: Ascension Thursday, 31 May 1973. South Presentation Convent Chapel, Cork. South Presentation Convent Choir, Christopher Stembridge (org), cond. Sister Rosario.

Song of the Provinces (1968)

satb, 2222 4331 timp perc hrp str audience
MS 10'
Premiere: 29 June 1965. St Francis Xavier Hall, Dublin. Radio Éireann Symphony Orchestra, Radio Éireann Singers, Radio Éireann Choral Society, conductor Aloys Fleischmann.
Recording: CMC Sound Archive.

Songs of Colmcille (1964)

satb, 1121 1000 timp perc pf str, speaker
MS 12'
Commissioned by Trinity College Dublin.
Premiere: 2 December 1964. Trinity College Dublin. TCD College Singers and Chamber Orchestra, conductor Aloys Fleischmann.
Recording: CMC Sound Archive.

The Planting Stick (1957)

ssaattbb, 1000 0000 2 perc hrp str [2 vn, va, vc]
MS 13'
Premiere: 22 May 1957. Cork International Choral and Folk Dance Festival. Cór Cois Laoi, Cork Ballet Company and Chamber Ensemble, conductor Aloys Fleischmann.
Recording: CMC Sound Archive.

The Three Sea Captains (1956)

satb
MS 8'
Premiere: 18 May 1956. Cork International Choral and Folk Dance Festival. Cór Cois Laoi, conductor Pilib Ó Laoghaire.
Recording: CMC Sound Archive.

Cill Chais (1952)

ssa
Cumann Náisiúnta na gCór / CNC 9 3'
Recording: CMC Sound Archive.

The Fountain of Magic (1946)

high voice, 2222 4231 timp 2 perc hrp str / high voice, pf
MS 12'
Premiere: 19 October 1947. Phoenix Hall, Dublin. RTE Symphony Orchestra, Violet Byrne (S-solo), conductor Jean Martinon.
Recording: CMC Sound Archive.

Where Finbar Taught (1946)

satb, 2222 4231 3 perc str
MS 3'
Commissioned by Alfred O'Rahilly, President, University College Cork.

Clare's Dragoons (1944)

Bar-solo, satb, bagpipes-solo, 2222 4231 3 perc str
MS 15'
Commissioned by the Thomas Davis and Young Ireland Centenary.
Premiere: 9 September 1945. Capitol Theatre, Dublin. Michael O'Higgins (Bar-solo), Joan Denise Moriarty (warpipes), Radio Éireann Symphony Orchestra, Radio Éireann Chorus, conductor Aloys Fleischmann.
Recording: CMC Sound Archive.

Tri hAmhráin (1937)

Three Songs for Tenor and Orchestra
T-solo, 2222 4231 3 perc hrp str / high voice, pf
MS 11'
Premiere: 15 December 1935. University College Cork. Seán Cuiirtéis (T-solo), UCC Orchestra, conductor Aloys Fleischmann.
Recording: CMC Sound Archive.

Illumina Oculos Meos (1934)

satbb
MS 3'
Premiere: February 1934. Munich Cathedral, Munich. Munich Cathedral Choir, conductor Mons. Ludwig Berberich.

BAND

Four Fanfares for An Tostal (1952)

3 tpt, 4 hn, 2 trb, btrb, tuba, timp, perc
MS 8'
Premiere: 1952. Tostal Parade, Dublin. Irish Army No. 1 Band.