

Philip Hammond

(b. 1951)

‘I now consider myself old enough to write what I feel like writing, unfettered by considerations of fads or fashions. Often my music is ‘occasional’, text-based or image-oriented. I hope it is always accessible in the best sense.’



Philip Hammond graduated from Queen's University, Belfast, in 1974 with the degrees of BMus and MA. In 2003, he was awarded the degree of Doctor of Music by Queen's. He is Arts Development Director at the Arts Council of Northern Ireland. As a pianist, critic and broadcaster, he has a wide reputation in Irish musical circles. As a composer, he has been commissioned to write in a variety of media for many leading international artists and ensembles.

Selected Works

ORCHESTRAL

...the starry dynamo in the machinery of night... (2001)

pf-solo, 1202 0200 str
MS 15'

Commissioned by Queen's University Belfast for Barry Douglas and Camerata Ireland.

Premiere: 24 May 2001. Queen's University Belfast. Barry Douglas (pf), Camerata Ireland.

Die Ersten Blumen (1996)

2222 4231 timp perc str
MS 10'

Commissioned by Queen's University Belfast for Barry Douglas and Camerata Ireland.

Premiere: 18 October 1996. Ulster Hall, Belfast. Ulster Orchestra, conductor Gunther Bauer-Schenk.

Recording: CMC Sound Archive.

Fanfare for Orchestra (1984)

3222 4231 timp perc str
MS 6'

Commissioned by Belfast City Council with funds provided by the Arts Council of Northern Ireland.

Premiere: 1 June 1984. Promenade Concerts, Ulster Hall, Belfast. Ulster Orchestra, conductor Bryden Thomson.

Recording: CMC Sound Archive.

ENSEMBLE

Sextet (1986)

fl ob cl bn hn pf
MS 18'

Commissioned by Colman Pearce and the Ulysses Wind Quintet with funds provided by the Arts Council of Northern Ireland and the Arts Council / An Chomhairle Ealaíon.

Premiere: 19 May 1986. Dublin. John O'Connor (pf), Ulysses Wind Quintet.

Elegiac Variation (1984)

vn pf
MS 15'

Commissioned by Sophie Langdon with funds provided by the South East Arts Association, England.

Premiere: February 1985. Wigmore Hall, London. Sophie Langdon (vn), Sheelagh Sutherland (pf).

Recording: CMC Sound Archive.

Tyr na nÓc (1980)

fl hrp
MS 8'

Commissioned by the Belfast Festival at Queen's, 1980.

Premiere: November 1980. Belfast Festival at Queen's. Phoenix Duo.

Sonata for Two Pianos (1978)

2 pf
MS 15'

Commissioned by the Belfast Festival at Queen's, 1978.

Premiere: November 1978. Belfast Festival at Queen's. Roy Holmes (pf), Philip Hammond (pf).

Recording: CMC Sound Archive.

SOLO INSTRUMENTAL

Irish Green (1994)

pf
MS 3'
Commissioned by Iain Burnside.
Premiere: October 1994. BBC Broadcasting House, Belfast. Iain Burnside (pf).
Recording: CMC Sound Archive.

African Black (1993)

pf
MS 5'
Commissioned by Belinda Loftus, Down Arts Centre, Downpatrick, Northern Ireland.
Premiere: 9 October 1993. Down Arts Centre, Downpatrick. Ruth McGinley (pf).
Recording: CMC Sound Archive.

Wavespace (1991)

fl
MS 3'
Premiere: 12 April 1991. Portaferry, Co. Down. Elizabeth Bennett (fl).
Recording: CMC Sound Archive.

French Blue (1990)

pf
Contemporary Music Centre Editions / CMC 1003 6'
Commissioned by the GPA Dublin International Piano Competition 1991 with funds provided by IMRO.
Premiere: 27 April 1991. GPA Dublin International Piano Competition, National Concert Hall, Dublin. Competitors in the GPA Dublin International Piano Competition.
Recording: CMC Sound Archive.

St Brendan and the White Birds (1988)

pf
MS 4'
Commissioned by BBC Radio Ulster.
Premiere: First broadcast: March 1989. BBC Radio Ulster. Philip Hammond.

Sonata for Organ (1983)

org
MS 10'
Premiere: August 1983. Kilkenny Arts Festival, Kilkenny, Ireland.
Recording: *Twentieth Century Irish Organ Music*. Norman Finlay (org). Priory Records 1985. PR178.

Suite for Harpsichord (1980)

hpd
MS 8'
Premiere: November 1980. Belfast Festival at Queen's. Norman Finlay (hpd).

Three Pieces for Piano (1973)

MS 8'
Premiere: July 1973. Royal Irish Academy of Music, Dublin. Philip Hammond (pf).

VOCAL AND CHORAL

The Boyhood of Christ (1995)

satb
Text: Anon 7th century Irish monastic poem.
MS 8'
Commissioned by the Ulster Society of Organists and Choirmasters.
Premiere: 17 June 1995. Down Cathedral, Co. Down. Priory Singers, conductor Harry Grindle.
Recording: CMC Sound Archive.

Jubilate Deo (1994)

satb, 2 tpt, org
Text: Sacred
MS 5'
Commissioned by Campbell College, Belfast, in celebration of the 100th Anniversary of its founding.
Premiere: 16 October 1994. Campbell College, Belfast. Campbell College Choir.

The Gate of Heaven (1993)

satb, 2 tpt, org
Text: Genesis 28 vv. 16,17
MS 5'
Commissioned by Dr Joe McKee to mark the 25th anniversary of the Chapel of Unity, Methodist College, Belfast.
Premiere: Methodist College Belfast. Methodist College Belfast.

The Emigrant's Farewell (1991)

Children's workshop piece
T-solo, children's voices, 2 vn va vc, perc
Text: Philip Hammond
MS 20'
Premiere: 24 June 1991. American Folk Park, Omagh, Ulster. Niall Morris (T-solo), Orion String Quartet.

Fuacht (1988)

satb
MS 4'

Chanson d'Automne (1987)

Mez-solo, 2 vn va vc
MS 15'
Commissioned by the Sonorities Festival of New Music, Belfast.
Premiere: 29 April 1987. Sonorities Festival of New Music, Belfast. Susan Bickley (Mez-solo), Brodsky String Quartet.

The Children of Lir (1984)

Children's workshop piece.
fl, hrp, speaker, children's voices, recs, perc
Text: Philip Hammond
MS 15'
Commissioned by Phoenix Duo and Young Arts.
Premiere: 25 September 1984. St George's Church, Belfast. Phoenix Duo and boys of Cabin Hill Preparatory School.

Träume (1982)

S-solo, pf
Text: Hermann Hesse
MS 12'
Commissioned by the Belfast Music Society.
Premiere: April 1983. Belfast Music Society, Harty Room, Queen's University Belfast. Sarah Walker (S-solo), Roger Vignoles (pf). Recording: CMC Sound Archive.

Nocturnes (1982)

Mez-solo, pf
Text: James Joyce
MS 14'
Commissioned by the Belfast Festival at Queen's for Suzanne Murphy.
Premiere: November 1982, BBC Radio Ulster. Suzanne Murphy (Mez-solo), Ingrid Surgenor (pf).

Narcissus (1981)

Mez-solo, fl, cl, hn, vn, vc, pf
MS 15'
Commissioned by BBC Radio Three, 1981.
Premiere: April 1981. Sonorities Festival of New Music, Belfast. Linda Hirst (Mez-solo), Lontano.

BAND

Waterfront Fanfares (1996)

3 fl, 3 ob, 4 cl, 3 bn, 3 tpt, 4 hn, 3 trb, tuba, timp, 3 perc
MS 4'
Commissioned by the Ulster Orchestra for the opening of the Waterfront Hall, Belfast.
Premiere: 17 January 1997. Opening of the Waterfront Hall, Belfast. Ulster Orchestra, conductor Jerzy Makzimumuk.
Recording: CMC Sound Archive.

ELECTRO-ACOUSTIC AND MIXED MEDIA

Thanatos (1977)

satb, 2 speakers, tape
MS 25'
Commissioned by St Anne's Cathedral Choir.
Premiere: 9 April 1978. BBC Belfast.