Fields of light

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Fields of Light

For Orchestra

Gareth Patrick Williams
Fields of Light

Piccolo
Flute
2 Oboes
2 Clarinets in Bb
Bassoon

2 Horns
2 Trumpets
Trombone
Bass Trombone
Tuba

2 Percussionists
(Glockenspiel / Marimba / Vibraphone)

Harp

Piano (slightly amplified at source if possible)

Violin 1 (divisi)
Violin 2 (divisi)
Viola (divisi)
Cello (divisi)
Double Bass

duration: 9'30"

Commissioned by
the BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra

First Performance
Glasgow City Halls
22nd October 2015
Fields of Light

As a child I would rise unhappily on cold school mornings, usually the last one up in the house. My father, awake for some time before me, would have already fed and watered the animals on our little farm.
I have this memory. Of going into the kitchen one morning. The sun was slowly rising, and I saw my father, smoking his pipe, looking out the window at the winter dawn.
At that time of life, I saw no value in sun rises, or indeed no worth in anything that happened before lunchtime. But now, I realise that it truly must be something.
To stop and watch the morning light breaking across your own little domain.

In Fields of Light, I tried to create the stillness of a single memory. To open it up, show some of the joy hidden within it, and then to carefully close it again. I made it the way my younger self used to make pieces for orchestras. Press a note on my piano, and imagine it held by the violins. Press another and hear the violas. Then the cellos, the trumpets, the flutes and so on…

Gareth Williams
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