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War Requiem, op. 66 (1961)

Duration: ca. 85 minutes

Text: The Requiem Mass and Wilfred Owen

Performing Forces: *voices:* soprano, tenor, and baritone soloists, SATB choir, boy choir; *orchestra:* 3 flutes (flute III doubling piccolo), 2 oboes, English horn, 3 clarinets (clarinet III doubling clarinet in E^b and bass-clarinet), 2 bassoon, contrabassoon, 6 horns, 4 trumpets in C, 3 trombones, tuba, piano, organ*, timpani, percussion (4 players - 2 side drums, tenor drum, bass drum, tambourine, cymbals, gong, triangle, castanets, whip, temple blocks, glockenspiel, vibraphone, crotales [C and F#], bells [C and F#]), and strings; *chamber orchestra:* flute (doubling piccolo), oboe (doubling English horn), clarinet (B^b and A), bassoon, horn, percussion (1 player - timpani, side drum, bass drum, cymbal, gong), harp, 2 violins, viola, cello, double bass.

* "The Boy Choir is accompanied throughout by an organ, and it may be advisable to use an harmonium or portable organ for this purpose since the sound should be distant. A grand organ (ad lib.) plays with the orchestra in the last movement only (Britten's note in the score)."

First Performance: 30 May 1962; St. Michael's Cathedral, Coventry; Heather Harper, Peter Pears, Dietrich Fischer-Dieskau; Coventry Festival Chorus, City of Birmingham Symphony, Melos Ensemble, Boys of Holy Trinity, Leamington and Stratford; conducted by Meredith Davies and the composer.

Edition: *War Requiem* is published and distributed by Boosey and Hawkes. The study score (HPS 742), and piano-vocal score are all available for purchase; orchestral materials are available for rental