

Syrinx before Pan and Narcissus

Paul Burnell

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Composed 2008

for solo instrument amplified with reverberation. For example, an 8 second reverb with no 'dry' output. The music may be transposed to suit the instrument's range.

Duration 3:40 approx.

First performed by Paul Burnell - oboe - at the Louise T Blouin Institute, London, 29 April 2008.

Programme note

A piece inspired by Benjamin Britten's 'Six Metamorphoses after Ovid'. In classical mythology, Syrinx was a nymph known for her chastity. Pursued by the amorous Greek god Pan, she fled, but when her escape was blocked by a river she asked her sister river nymphs to disguise her. In answer, she was transformed into hollow marsh reeds that made a haunting sound when the god's sighing breath blew across them.

