

SNOW NEVER FELL ON HIS GRAVE was commissioned by, and written for, Edgar Holmes and the Hampshire County Youth Orchestra, with funds made available from Hampshire County Council.

In 1830, demands for a 'living wage' by farm workers in Hampshire had led to an agricultural revolt. Hay ricks were burned and the newly invented threshing machines - considered a menace by farm workers - were often smashed. The demand for a wage of twelve shillings per week, instead of the customary eight, was met with a law passed by Parliament, making the smashing of machinery and demands for more money capital offences.

During this period Bingham Baring - a Justice of the Peace - ordered a group of labourers, who had gathered outside his house, to disperse. Getting down from his horse to remonstrate with them, Baring 'collared' their leader. During this disturbance Baring's hat was knocked off by Henry Cook, a nineteen year old labourer from Micheldever. As a result of this, Cook was charged with attempted murder, tried in Winchester and subsequently found guilty. After being hanged, he was buried in Micheldever churchyard. Legend has it that snow never remains on the site of his grave.

The account of the ploughboy's execution, in the Hampshire Advertiser, is a moving one:

"He was dressed in ragged and wretched apparel and presented a pitiable appearance his groans were dreadful".

His victim was, however, walking around Winchester in perfect health shortly after the assault; and within a week was seen to lash out with a stick at a handcuffed, but unconvicted prisoner.

SNOW NEVER FELL ON HIS GRAVE, whilst not overtly programmatic, takes these riots as its starting point. Though subdivided into six short sections - Struggle, March, Conflict, Requiem, Dance and Coda; it is played as a continuous single movement. 'Dance' is based on a Hampshire folksong of the time 'The Owslebury Lads'.

Thanks are due to John Frampton, David Jones and the Alton College Library staff, and John Rowley for their help in researching this project; and to Beccy, Simon and Matthew for giving me the time and space to write the piece. It is dedicated to all those who fought, against overwhelming odds, for the right to a living wage.

ORCHESTRA

2 Flutes [2nd doubling Piccolo]
2 Oboes [2nd doubling Cor Anglais]
2 Clarinets [1st in Bb, 2nd in A]
2 Bassoons

4 Horns in F
2 Trumpets in Bb
2 Trombones
1 Bass Trombone
1 Tuba

Timpani

Percussion [4 players]

*High Wood Block, Low Wood Block, High Tom-Tom, Medium Tom-Tom,
Low Tom-Tom, Snare Drum, Gong, Hi-Hat, Medium Crash Cymbal,
Large Crash Cymbal, Chinese Cymbal, Vibraphone*

Violin I [divisi a 2]
Violin II [divisi a 2]
Viola [divisi a 2]
Cello [divisi a 2]
Double Bass [divisi a 2]

SNOW NEVER FELL ON HIS GRAVE

'STRUGGLE'
Adagio e sostenuto (♩ = 54)

Martin Read

Flute

Oboe

Clarinet in Bb

Clarinet in A

Bassoon

Horn in F

Trumpet in Bb

Trombone

Bass Trombone

Tuba

Timpani

Percussion I

Percussion II

Vibraphone

Adagio e sostenuto (♩ = 54)

Violin I

Violin II

Viola

Violoncello

Double bass

PP

PP

9

Vln I

Vln II

Vla

Vc.

Db.

p

14

Vln I

Vln II

Vla

Vc.

Db.

mp

mf

19

Vln I *mf* *subito mp*

Vln II *mf* *mp*

Vla *mf* *mp*

Vc. *mf* *mp*

Db. *mf* *mp*

25

Vln I

Vln II *subito p*

Vla *p*

Vc. *subito p*

Db. *p*

31

Vln I

Vln II

Vla

Vc.

Db.

subito pp

pp

subito pp

pp

subito pp

pp

38

Timp.

Perc. I

Perc. II

as quiet as possible; very gradual crescendo (sempre)

gradual accelerando

as quiet as possible; very gradual crescendo (sempre)

gradual accelerando

High wood block

Low wood block

Medium tom

Low tom

Guire

Hi-hat (open) ↑

Hi-hat (closed) ↑

'MARCH'

'MARCH'

Vln I

Vln II

Vla

Vc.

Db.

niente

niente

45 **Andante** ($\text{♩} = 72$)

Timp.

Perc. I

Perc. II

very gradual crescendo (sempre)

49

Timp.

Perc. I

Perc. II

52

Timp.

Perc. I

Perc. II

55

Cl.in Bb

Cl.in A

Bsn

Timp.

Perc. I

Perc. II

mf very gradual cresc. (sempre)

mf very gradual cresc. (sempre)

mf very gradual cresc. (sempre)

mf very gradual cresc. (sempre)

mf very gradual cresc. (sempre)

mf very gradual cresc. (sempre)

58

Cl. in Bb

Cl. in A

Bsn

Timp.

Perc. I

Perc. II

61

Fl.

Cl. in Bb

Cl. in A

Bsn

Timp.

Perc. I

Perc. II

f very gradual cresc. (sempre)

f very gradual cresc. (sempre)

f very gradual cresc. (sempre)

f very gradual cresc. (sempre)

f very gradual cresc. (sempre)

f very gradual cresc. (sempre)

f very gradual cresc. (sempre)

f very gradual cresc. (sempre)

f very gradual cresc. (sempre)

64

Fl.

Ob.

Cl. in Bb

Cl. in A

Bsn

Timp.

Perc. I

Perc. II

ff very gradual cresc. (sempre)

ff very gradual cresc. (sempre)

ff very gradual cresc. (sempre)

ff very gradual cresc. (sempre)

ff very gradual cresc. (sempre)

ff very gradual cresc. (sempre)

ff very gradual cresc. (sempre)

ff very gradual cresc. (sempre)

67

Fl.

Ob.

Cl. in Bb

Cl. in A

Bsn

Timp.

Perc. I

Perc. II

ff very gradual cresc. (sempre)

ff very gradual cresc. (sempre)

ff very gradual cresc. (sempre)

ff very gradual cresc. (sempre)

ff very gradual cresc. (sempre)

ff very gradual cresc. (sempre)

ff very gradual cresc. (sempre)

ff very gradual cresc. (sempre)