

Alwynne Pritchard

Der Glücklose Engel

E flat Clarinet, Violin, 'Cello

Preview File Only

(i)

***Der Glücklose Engel* was commissioned by Apartment House with funds from South West Arts and was given its first performance at the University of Bristol on February 4th, 1999.**

For my parents and for Dag

Preview File Only

(ii)

Der Glücklose Engel
(The Luckless Angel)

Heine Muller

Hinter ihm schwemmt Vergangenheit an, schüttet Geröll auf Flügel und Schultern, mit Lärm wie von begrabnen Trommeln, während vor ihm sich die Zukunft staut, seine Augen eindrückt, die Augäpfel sprengt wie ein Stern, das Wort umdreht, zum tönenden Knebel, ihn würgt mit seinem Atem. Eine Zeit lang sieht man noch sein Flügelschlagen, hört in das Rauschen die Steinschläge vor oder über ihm niedergehen, lauter je heftiger die vergebliche Bewegung, vereinzelt, wenn sie langsamer wird. Dann schließt sich über ihm der Augenblick: auf dem schnell verschütteten Stehplatz kommt der glücklose Engel zur Ruhe, wartend auf Geschichte in der Versteinerung von Flug Blick Atem. Bis das erneute Rauschen mächtiger Flügelschläge sich in Wellen durch den Stein fortpflanzt und seinene Flug anzeigt.

[The past surges behind him, pouring rubble on wings and shoulders thundering like buried drums, while in front of him the future collects, crushes his eyes, explodes his eyeballs like a star wrenching the word into a resounding gag, strangling him with its breath. For a time one still sees the beating of his wings, hears the crash of stones, falling before, above, behind him, growing louder with each furious futile struggle, weakening, lessening, as the struggle subsides. Then the moment closes over him. The luckless angel is silent, resting in the rapidly flooded space, waiting for history in the petrification of light, glance, breath. Until the renewed rush of powerful wings swelling in waves through the stone signals his flight.]

- Translation by Bernard & Caroline Schütze

(iii)

Performance Directions:

- 1: Clarinet written in E flat
- 2: Where no metre or pulse is given, one centimetre = about one second
- 3: \square bars = each instrument must rattle at independent tempo
- 4: $\xrightarrow{\text{vln.}}$ indicates which instrument will lead the next bar
- 5: Rest bars containing ralls or accels will be extended beyond or reduced to less than the duration given
- 6: ϕ = Bartók pizzicato
- 7: c.l. = col legno (battuto)
- 8: It must be clear to the audience that the piece has finished immediately the final bar is complete
- 9: All players should perform from the score

Duration: 10 minutes