

Joanna Marsh

Four Musical Clocks

organ

Sample
copy

JOANNA
MARSH



Joanna Marsh

Four Musical Clocks (March 2009)

organ

Total duration c.8'20"

These pieces are written to work on all types of organ including chamber instruments without pedals.

ISMN 979-0-9002355-3-4

© 2009 Joanna Marsh
www.joannamarsh.co.uk

Four Musical Clocks

Four Musical Clocks are inspired by stories about clocks in well-known children's literature. They were written for Stephen Farr, to be programmed alongside some of Haydn's organ transcriptions *Pieces for Musical Clocks* in his programme at Jesus College Chapel in the Cantat 800 music festival celebrating 800 years of Cambridge University. The pieces may be played in any order and with any choice of the Haydn pieces or they may be played as a complete set independently. They are intended to be highly flexible for organists playing recitals on potentially very small chamber instruments without pedals or they may be played on a piano.

1. The White Rabbit's Pocket Watch

The white rabbit is a vividly depicted character in Lewis Carroll's "Alice in Wonderland". In this piece the off-centre triplets and metrical ambiguity gives a sense of his lolloping gait and twitching nose as the piece scurries along. The white rabbit, rushing about and very late, occasionally stops to look at his pocket watch. It is heard ticking in the music.

2. The Ticking Croc

This piece is based on the crocodile from J.M. Barrie's "Peter Pan" which swallowed Hook, the pirate's hand and wants more. However, as it also swallowed a clock, Hook knows when its terrifying presence is nearby. Alongside the humorous character of the music there is a sense of menace. The ticking clock is heard amidst increasingly dissonant harmonies as the crocodile approaches.

3. Midnight Sunshine

In Philippa Pearce's book "Tom's Midnight Garden", the young boy awake in bed hears the grandfather clock strangely strike 13. When he goes to investigate, he finds that the backyard has been transformed into a sunlit garden. This piece finds him at the suspense filled moment of creeping down the stairs unsure of what he will find. There is a ghostly quality to the smooth angular melody with the rhythmic repetition building a sense of apprehension.

4. At The Twelfth Strike

A clock is central to the well known story of Cinderella. At the twelfth strike her clothes will turn back to rags and her carriage back to a pumpkin, so this galloping dash of a piece has a driving rhythm to remind you of the horses' hoofs as she makes her escape.

The White Rabbit's Pocket Watch

Joanna Marsh

A brisk waltz $\text{J} = 144$

Sheet music for "The White Rabbit's Pocket Watch" by Joanna Marsh. The music is a brisk waltz in 3/4 time, $\text{J} = 144$. The score consists of eight staves of musical notation for piano, with various dynamics, articulations, and performance instructions like "Ad lib.", "(twitching nose)", "(pocket watch)", "Rit.", and "A tempo Chipper". The music includes measures 1 through 21, with measure 13 being the first page and measure 21 being the last shown.

25

3

3

29

3

3

33

Rit.

A tempo

3

3

38

3

3

44

3

3

49

3

3

54

getting faster

59

64

A tempo

Ad lib.

68

72

76

- 8's

c. 1' 30"

The Ticking Croc

Joanna Marsh

*With gradual registered crescendo
throughout, if possible*

Menacing **Rit.** **A tempo** $\text{♩} = 60$

The sheet music features two bass staves. The top staff is in 5/4 time, starting with a dynamic of *p*, followed by *mf* and *mp*. The bottom staff starts with a rest. Measure 1 ends with a repeat sign. Measures 2-3 show a transition with a bass line consisting of eighth-note pairs. Measure 4 begins with a dynamic of *p*, followed by *mf* and *mp*. Measures 5-6 show a continuation of the bass line with eighth-note pairs. Measure 7 begins with a dynamic of *p*, followed by *mf* and *mp*. Measures 8-9 show a continuation of the bass line with eighth-note pairs. Measure 10 begins with a dynamic of *p*, followed by *mf* and *mp*. Measures 11-12 show a continuation of the bass line with eighth-note pairs. Measure 13 begins with a dynamic of *p*, followed by *mf* and *mp*.

16

19

22

25

+Add (a bit "hammer horror")

28

31

Midnight Sunshine

Joanna Marsh

Eerie $\text{♩} = 88$

1

4

7

10

13

16

19 **A tempo**

22

25

28

30

33

c. 2' 20"

At The Twelfth Strike

Joanna Marsh

Fast

(tumbling down the palace steps)

f

simile

1

3

6

9

12

15

18

12/8 6 12/8 6

21

6 12/8 6 12/8

24

12/8 12/8

27

6/8 6/8

30

6/8 12/8 6/8 12/8

33

12/8 12/8

36

40

44

46

49

52

(r.h.)

(l.h.)

c. 1' 30"

Sample
copy

www.joannamarsh.co.uk

ISMN 979-0-9002355-3-4



9 790900 235534