

MALCOLM ARNOLD

Anniversary Overture
transcribed for symphonic wind band
by Rodney Parker

(1968/2000)

FABER *ff* MUSIC

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Annivesary Overture Op 99 (originally titled *Hong Kong Annivesary Overture*)
was written for the twenty first anniversary of the founding
of the Hong Kong Philharmonic Society.
The first performance was given at the City Hall, Hong Kong
by the Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra
conducted by Arrigo Foa
on 8 December 1968.

Duration: 4 minutes

INSTRUMENTATION

piccolo
2 flutes
2 oboes
Eb clarinet
3 Bb clarinets
Eb alto clarinet
Bb bass clarinet
2 bassoons
2 Eb alto saxophones
Bb tenor saxophone
Eb baritone saxophone

4 horns in F
2 Bb trumpets
2 tenor trombones
bass trombone
euphonium
2 tubas

string bass

timpani

percussion (2 players)
player 1: glockenspiel, tam-tam
player 2: cymbals, bass drum

Score in C

Malcolm Arnold (b.1921) studied at the Royal College of Music with Gordon Jacob. At just twenty one he became principal trumpet of the London Philharmonic, a position he held until 1948 when he won the Mendelssohn Scholarship and retired from playing to concentrate on composition. Resident from some years in Cornwall, he was made Bard of the Cornish Gorsyth in 1968. He also lived in Dublin from 1972 to 1977 and the influence of Irish folk music can be found in works such as *Symphony No 7* and *String Quartet No 2*. One of the most fluent and versatile composers of his generation, he has written music for almost every sort of ensemble and occasion. Many works such as the *Four Cornish Dances* and *Peterloo Overture* are firmly embedded in both the professional and amateur repertory. His nine symphonies, numerous concerti, ballet scores, a vast corpus of chamber music, many occasional works, theatre scores and an amazing series of over eighty film scores all stand as testament to a composer at the forefront of his generation, and who has been heralded as a master of the 'big tune'.

PROGRAMME NOTE

Anniversary Overture was commissioned in 1968 as a twenty-first birthday piece for the Hong Kong Philharmonic Society, and is a four-minute firework display for orchestra. Within the framework of a two-four *Allegro giubiloso*, Arnold simply alternates a couple of thumpingly good tunes, one breezy, the other tender, milking them for all they are worth and landing resoundingly in F major.

This new transcription brings an exuberant work to the field of symphonic wind band for the first time.

