



Colour blinds the eye



Alexander Campkin



musicalis publishing



Scored for:

Double choir (solo SATB and chorus SATB), cornetto curvo, tenor cornetto, trombone, dulcian, harpsichord, chamber organ, strings (2 violins, viola and gamba).

Duration: c. 10 minutes.

Quarter-comma meantone temperament in C.

Commissioned for Serikon Ensemble by Daniel Stighäll with funds from the Swedish Arts Council. First performed by Serikon Ensemble and The Erik Westbergs Vokalensemble conducted by Erik Westbergs, on 8 February 2013 in Luleå Domkyrka, Sweden.

Programme Notes:

In *Colour blinds the eye* I take elements from Medieval choral music as my starting point, in particular the sound-world of sacred compositions by Perotin. The music should be loud, “raw” and “earthy”. I am envisaging an almost “rough” sound, which should be sung with energy and intensity. The composition moves away into more lyrical music.

Text:

Colour blinds the eye.

Music deafens the ear.

Flavour numbs the taste.

Fame weakens the reason.

Desire withers the heart.

The wise soul watches the world

But trusts her inner compass.

Her heart seeks true beauty.

Text based on the Tao Te Ching by Laozi (6th century BC), adapted by Alexander Campkin.

Composer Biography:

Alexander Campkin (b. 1984) is an award-winning British composer and conductor. His work has been performed and broadcasted in over thirty countries throughout the UK, Europe, US, Australia, New Zealand and South America.

Alexander has been appointed Composer-in-Residence of Ampersandance Contemporary Dance Company, the Fulham Camerata Choir and Orchestra and Neresheim Abbey in Germany. He has received thirty five professional commissions from organisations and ensembles including The Royal Opera House, BBC Performing Arts Fund, Southbank Centre, Vokalkapelle Munich (former Choir to the Royal Bavarian Court), British Arts Council, Royal School of Church Music, Swedish Arts Council, Manson Ensemble, London Festival of Contemporary Church Music and Plymouth Philharmonic Choir and Orchestra.

Alexander is Artistic Director of The Oxbridge Singers, minimaLIST ENsemble and Future Opera. His growing passion for educational projects led him to found Musicalis Education with whom he has delivered regular workshops and performances in vocal technique and composition. Alexander studied composition and conducting at the Royal Academy of Music, Oxford University and in Vienna at the Universitat fur Musik. He was a finalist in the British Composer Awards, winner of the 2010 “Musica Sacra” International Composition Competition in Poland, winner of the NCEM Composers' Award in association with BBC Radio 3, Tallis Scholars and Chester Festivals, and highly commended in the BBC Proms Young Composers' Competition.

Selected works by Alexander Campkin from Musicalis Publishing:

<i>O magnum mysterium</i> (SATB 5')	<i>Missa Jesu Bleibet Meine Freude</i> (SSATB 13')	<i>Witness of Light</i> (SATB & organ 5')	<i>True Love</i> (SATB & opt. strings 4')
<i>O nata lux</i> (SATB 5')	<i>Canticles in G</i> (SATB & organ)	<i>Sleep, Holy Babe</i> (SATB 4')	<i>Song of a Man</i> (SATB 11')
<i>Adoramus te</i> (SSATB 6')	<i>Evening Service for Trebles</i> (SS & organ)	<i>Awake, Awake!</i> (SATB 4')	<i>Soft Snow</i> (SATB 3')
<i>Sancte Deus</i> (SATB 5')	<i>Calm me, O Lord</i> (SATB 6')	<i>I saw Eternity</i> (SSA 4')	<i>True Light</i> (SATB & full orch. 20')
<i>Missa Brevis</i> (SATB & organ 20')	<i>In the Beginning</i> (SATB & organ 5')	<i>To Stop a Heart</i> (SSA 4')	<i>Solar Flare</i> (Solo organ 7')

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To Daniel Sighall
Colour Blinds the Eye

Coarse and blinding (♩ = c. 92)

The score is for a piece titled "Colour Blinds the Eye" by Alexander Campkin, based on text from the Tao Te Ching. The tempo is marked "Coarse and blinding" with a quarter note equal to approximately 92 beats per minute. The score is in common time (4/4) and the key signature is C major. The instruments and vocal parts are as follows:

- Cornetto curvo**: Rests throughout.
- Tenor cornetto**: Rests throughout.
- Trombone**: Plays a melodic line starting in the second measure, marked *f* and *mf*.
- Dulcian**: Rests throughout.
- SOPRANO SOLO**: Rests throughout.
- ALTO SOLO**: Rests throughout.
- TENOR SOLO**: Sings "Co - lour" in the first measure and "blinds" in the fourth measure. Dynamics range from *f* to *mf*.
- BASS SOLO**: Sings "Co - lour" in the first measure and "blinds" in the fourth measure. Dynamics range from *f* to *mf*.
- SOPRANO CHORUS**: Rests throughout.
- ALTO CHORUS**: Rests throughout.
- TENOR CHORUS**: Enters in the fourth measure with a rhythmic pattern, marked *p*. Lyrics: "co - lour, co - lour, co - lour, co -".
- BASS CHORUS**: Enters in the first measure with a rhythmic pattern, marked *ppp*. Lyrics: "Co - lour, co - lour, co - lour, co - lour, co - lour, co - lour, co - lour, co - lour, co - lour, co - lour, co - lour, co - lour, co - lour, co - lour, co - lour, co -".
- Harpsichord**: Rests throughout.
- Organ**: Rests throughout.
- Violin 1**: Rests throughout.
- Violin 2**: Rests throughout.
- Viola**: Enters in the fourth measure with a rhythmic pattern, marked *p*.
- Gamba**: Enters in the first measure with a rhythmic pattern, marked *ppp*. Dynamics range from *ppp* to *p*.

10

Corn. C.

T. Corn.

Tbn.

Dul.

S. solo

A. solo

T. solo

B. solo

S. ch

A. ch

T. ch

B. ch

Hpsd.

Org.

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Gamb.

f *mf* *f*

Co - lour_ blinds_

Co - lour_ blinds_

ppp

lour, co-lour, co-lour, co-lour, co - lour, co-lour, co-lour, co-lour, co - lour, co-lour, co-lour, co-lour, co - lour, blind

ppp *mp* *ppp* *mp*

mm co - lour, co - lour, co - lour, co - lour, co - lour, co - lour, co - lour, co - lour, co - lour,

ppp *mp* *ppp* *mp*

29

Corn. C.

T. Corn.

Tbn. *f* *3 p* *pp* *f p*

Dul. *f* *p* *f 3 p*

S. solo

A. solo *f*
Co - lour

T. solo *f 3 p* eye... *f p* Co - lour

B. solo *f 3 p* Mu - sic... *f p* deaf - ens... *f p* the...

S. ch

A. ch *pp* (humming) mm mm

T. ch *mp* *pp* *3* eye... ah ee ah ee ah ee ah ee ah ee ah ee ah ee ah ee ah ee ah ee ah ee ah ee ah ee ah ee ah ee Co - lour

B. ch *mp* *pp* *mp* *pp* *mp* *pp* the ear, the ear, Mu - sic, mu - sic, mu - sic, deaf - ens deaf - ens, deaf - ens, the the the

Hpsd.

Org.

Vln. 1

Vln. 2 *pp*

Vla. *mp* *pp* *f*

Gamb. *mp* *pp* *mp* *pp* *mp* *pp*

37

Corn. C.

T. Corn.

Tbn.

Dul.

S. solo

A. solo

T. solo

B. solo

S. ch

A. ch

T. ch

B. ch

Hpsd.

Org.

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Gamb.

f 3

pp

f 3 *p*

eye.

f 3

eye.

mf 3 *p*

eye.

pp 3 *mp* 3 *pp*

the the the the the the the the the the the the the the the the the the eye. ah ee ah ee ah ee ah ee ah ee ah ee ah ee

ear ear ear ear ear ear ear ear ear ear ear ear ear ear ear ear ear ear ear

mf 3 *p*

pp *mp* *pp*

pp *mp* *pp*

67

Corn. C.

T. Corn.

Tbn.

Dul.

S. solo

A. solo

T. solo

B. solo

S. ch

A. ch

T. ch

B. ch

Hpsd.

Org.

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Gamb.

Co - lour
blinds

Mu - sic
deaf - ens
the

ear...
Mu - sic
deaf - ens
the

ear ear ear ear
Mu - sic mu - sic mu - sic mu - sic mu - sic mu - sic
deaf - ens deaf - ens deaf - ens deaf - ens deaf - ens deaf - ens deaf - ens the

eye eye
Mu - sic mu - sic music mu - sic mu - sic mu - sic
deaf - ens deaf deaf deaf deaf deaf deaf deaf deaf deaf the

ear...
Mu - sic
deaf - ens
the

ear ear ear ear
Mu - sic mu - sic mu - sic mu - sic mu - sic mu - sic
deaf - ens deaf - ens deaf - ens deaf - ens deaf - ens deaf - ens deaf - ens the

eye eye
Mu - sic mu - sic music mu - sic mu - sic mu - sic
deaf - ens deaf deaf deaf deaf deaf deaf deaf deaf deaf the

Co - lour
blinds

Mu - sic
deaf - ens
the

ear...
Mu - sic
deaf - ens
the

ear ear ear ear
Mu - sic mu - sic mu - sic mu - sic mu - sic mu - sic
deaf - ens deaf - ens deaf - ens deaf - ens deaf - ens deaf - ens deaf - ens the

eye eye
Mu - sic mu - sic music mu - sic mu - sic mu - sic
deaf - ens deaf deaf deaf deaf deaf deaf deaf deaf deaf the

75

Corn. C. *pp* *f* *mp*

T. Corn. *f > p* *f* *p*

Tbn. *f* *p*

Dul. *f* *p* *f* *p*

S. solo *pp* *f* *mp*
Co - lour

A. solo *f > p* *f* *p*
eye. Mu - sic

T. solo *f* *p*
Fla - - - - -

B. solo *f* *p* *f* *p*
ear. Fla - - - - -

S. ch *pp* *pp*
eye. co-lour co-lour co-lour co-lour co-lour co-lour co-lour co-lour

A. ch *f* *p*
Mu - sic mu - sic mu - sic mu - sic mu - sic mu - sic mu - sic mu - sic mu - sic

T. ch *mp* *pp*
ear ear ear ear ear ear Fla - vour fla - vour fla - vour fla - vour fla - vour

B. ch *mp* *pp* *mp* *pp*
ear. ear ear ear ear Fla - vour fla - vour fla - vour fla - vour fla - vour fla - vour fla - vour fla - vour fla - vour fla - vour

Hpsd.

Org.

Vln. 1 *pp* *pp*

Vln. 2 *f* *p*

Vla. *mp* *pp*

Gamb. *mp* *pp* *mp* *pp*

86

Corn. C. *f mp* *f mp*

T. Corn. *f p* *f p* *f p*

Tbn. *f p* *f p* *f p*

Dul. *f p* *f p*

S. solo Co - lour blinds

A. solo Mu - sic deaf - ens the

T. solo taste. Flav - our, fla - - -

B. solo taste. Co - lour

S. ch Co - lour blinds

A. ch Mu - sic mu - sic mu - sic mu - sic mu - sic mu - sic deaf - ens deaf - ens deaf - ens deaf - ens the the the the

T. ch the the the the the the taste. taste taste taste Fla - vour fla - vour fla - vour fla - vour fla -

B. ch taste taste taste taste Co - lour co - lour co - lour co - lour co - lour co - lour co - lour co - lour co - lour

Hpsd.

Org.

Vln. 1 *f mp* *f mp*

Vln. 2 *f p* *f p* *f p*

Vla. *f p* *f p*

Gamb. *mp pp*

95

Corn. C. *pp* *mf*

T. Corn. *f mp* *f > mp* 3

Tbn. *f p* *f p* *f > p*

Dul. *f p* *f p*

S. solo *pp* *mf*
Mu - sic deaf - ens.

A. solo *p* *f mp* *f > mp* 3
Mu - sic deaf - ens.

T. solo *f p* *f p* *f > p*
taste. Fla -

B. solo *f p* *f p*
Co - lour blinds.

S. ch *pp* *mf*
Mu - sic deaf - ens.

A. ch *f mp* *f > mp* 3
Mu - sic deaf - ens.

T. ch *f p* *f p* *f > p* 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3
taste. ta ta ta ta ta ta ta ta ta ta ta Fla -

B. ch *f p* *f p*
Co - lour co - lour co - lour co - lour co - lour co - lour blinds blinds blinds blinds blinds blinds blinds blinds blinds blinds

Hpsd.

Org.

Vln. 1

Vln. 2 *f mp* *f > mp* 3

Vla. *f p* *f p* *f > p* 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3

Gamb. *f p* *f p*

Numbered (♩ = c. 92)

110

Corn. C. *mf poco espress.*

T. Corn. *mf poco espress.*

Tbn. *f p*

Dul. *f > p*

S. solo
the ear.

A. solo
mf poco espress.
Fame weak - - - ens the rea - son.

T. solo
f p *mf poco espress.*
taste. Fame weak - - - ens the rea - son.

B. solo
f > p
eye.

S. ch
the ear.

A. ch
p poco espress.
ear ear ear ear ear ear ear Fame weak - - - ens Fame

T. ch
f p *p poco espress.*
the the the the the the the taste. Fame weak - - - ens Fame

B. ch
f > p
the eye.

Hpsd.

Org.

Vln. 1 *mf*

Vln. 2 *mf*

Vla. *f p*

Gamb. *f > p*

Detailed description: This is a page of a musical score for a piece titled 'Numbered' with a tempo of approximately 92 beats per minute. The score is for measures 110 through 114. It features a variety of instruments and vocal parts. The woodwinds (Cornets, Trombones, Trumpets, and Bassoons) and strings (Violins, Viola, Cello) provide accompaniment. The vocal parts include Solo Soprano, Alto, Tenor, and Bass, as well as a Chorus (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass). The lyrics are: 'the ear.', 'Fame weak - - - ens the rea - son.', 'taste. Fame weak - - - ens the rea - son.', 'eye.', 'the ear.', 'ear ear ear ear ear ear ear Fame weak - - - ens Fame', 'the the the the the the the taste. Fame weak - - - ens Fame', and 'the eye.'. The score includes dynamic markings such as *mf poco espress.*, *f p*, *f > p*, and *p poco espress.*. There are also triplets and slurs throughout the instrumental parts.

120

Corn. C.

T. Corn.

Tbn.

Dul.

S. solo

A. solo

T. solo

B. solo

S. ch

A. ch

T. ch

B. ch

Hpsd.

Org.

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Gamb.

Fame weak - kens the rea - son, the rea - son, Fame

Fame weak - kens the rea - son, the rea - son, Fame

Fame weak - kens the rea - son, the rea - son, Fame

130

Corn. C.

T. Corn.

Tbn.

Dul.

S. solo

A. solo

T. solo

B. solo

S. ch

A. ch

T. ch

B. ch

Hpsd.

Org.

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Gamb.

pp cresc.

pp cresc.

pp cresc.

weak - ens the rea - son, fame weak - - - ens

weak - ens the rea - son, Fame weak - - - ens

De - - - si - re

Fame fame weak - - - ens

Fame fame weak - - - ens

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Corn. C. *p*

T. Corn. *p* *f*

Tbn. *f* *p*

Dul. *f* *p*

S. solo

A. solo
son, the rea-son, the rea-son. *p* *f* De

T. solo
son, the rea-son, the rea-son. *p* *f* De-si-re

B. solo
wi-thers the heart, the heart. *f* *p* De-si-re De-si-re

S. ch

A. ch
son, Fame. *f* *p*

T. ch
son, Fame. *f* *p* De-si-re

B. ch
wi-thers the heart, the heart. *f* *p* De-si-re

Hpsd.

Org.

Vln. 1 *p*

Vln. 2 *p*

Vla.

Gamb.

Corn. C. *f p f mp f ff mf ff mf mf p mf*

T. Corn. *p f p f p f mp f ff mf ff mf mf p*

Tbn. *f p f mp f ff mf ff mf mf p*

Dul. *f p f mp f ff mf ff mf mf p*

S. solo De - si-re wi - thers the heart. De - si-re wi - thers the heart.

A. solo *p f p f p f mp f ff mf ff mf mf p mf*
 si-re De - si-re De si-re wi - thers the heart. De - si-re wi - thers the heart. De

T. solo *f p f mp f ff mf ff mf mf p*
 De si-re wi - thers the heart. De - si-re wi - thers the heart.

B. solo *f mp f ff mf ff mf mf p*
 wi - thers the heart. De - si-re wi - thers the heart.

S. ch *f p ff mf ff mf*
 De - si-re De - si-re wi - thers

A. ch *f p f p f mp f*
 De - si-re De si-re wi - thers the heart.

T. ch *f p*
 De si-re

B. ch *f p*
 De si-re

Hpsd. *mf*

Org.

Vln. 1 *mf*

Vln. 2

Vla.

Gamb.

Introspectively

170

Corn. C. *p* *mf* *mf*

T. Corn.

Tbn.

Dul. *mf*

S. solo heart. The wise

A. solo *p* *mf* si-re wi - thers the heart.

T. solo *mf espress.* The wise soul watch-es the world,

B. solo *mf espress.* The wise soul watch-es the world,

S. ch.

A. ch.

T. ch. *mf espress.* The wise soul watch-es the world,

B. ch. *mf espress.* The wise soul watch-es the world,

Hpsd.

Org. *mf espress.*

Vln. 1 *p* *mf* *mf*

Vln. 2

Vla. *mf espress.*

Gamb. *mf espress.*

192

Corn. C.

T. Corn.

Tbn.

Dul.

S. solo
Her heart seeks true beau - - ty.

A. solo
watch-es the world, Her heart seeks true beau - - ty.

T. solo
watch-es the world, Her heart seeks true beau - - ty.

B. solo
watch-es the world, Her heart seeks true beau - - ty.

S. ch
Her heart seeks true beau - - ty.

A. ch
watch-es the world, Her heart seeks true beau - - ty.

T. ch
watch-es the world, Her heart seeks true beau - - ty.

B. ch
watch-es the world, Her heart seeks true beau - - ty.

Hpsd.

Org.

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Gamb.

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Corn. C. *f p* *f p* *f p* *f > p* *f p* *mf*

T. Corn. *f p* *f p* *f p* *f > p*

Tbn. *f p* *f p* *f p* *f > p*

Dul. *f p* *f p* *f p* *f > p*

S. solo *f p* *f p* *f p* *f > p* *mf espress.*
 Co-lour blinds the eye. blinds

A. solo *f p* *f p* *f p* *f > p* *f p* *mf espress.*
 Co-lour blinds the eye. Co-lour blinds

T. solo *f p* *f p* *f p* *f > p*
 Co-lour blinds the eye.

B. solo *f p* *f p* *f p* *f > p*
 Co-lour blinds the eye.

S. ch

A. ch

T. ch

B. ch

Hpsd. *f*

Org. *mf espress.*

Vln. 1 *f p* *f p* *f p* *f > p* *f p* *mf*

Vln. 2 *f p* *f p* *f p* *f > p*

Vla. *f p* *f p* *f p* *f > p*

Gamb. *f p* *f p* *f p* *f > p*

Introspectively

213

Corn. C. *p mf*

T. Corn. *mf*

Tbn.

Dul.

S. solo *p mf*
the eye. Her heart seeks beau -

A. solo *mf espress.*
the eye. Her heart seeks true beau - -

T. solo *mf espress.*
Her heart seeks true beau - -

B. solo *mf espress.*
Her heart seeks true beau - -

S. ch *mf espress.*
Her heart seeks true beau - -

A. ch *mf espress.*
Her heart seeks true beau - -

T. ch *mf espress.*
Her heart seeks true beau - -

B. ch *mf espress.*
Her heart seeks true beau - -

Hpsd.

Org. *mf espress.*

Vln. 1 *p mf*

Vln. 2 *mf espress.*

Vla. *mf espress.*

Gamb. *mf espress.*

223

Corn. C. *p* *mf*

T. Corn. *p* *mf*

Tbn. *p* *mf*

Dul. *p* *mp* *mf* *mf*

S. solo *p* *mf*
- ty. Her heart seeks True beau - - ty.

A. solo *p* *mf*
- ty. True beau - - ty.

T. solo *p* *mf*
- ty. True beau - - ty.

B. solo *p* *mf*
- ty. True beau - - ty.

S. ch *p* *mf*
- ty. True beau - - ty.

A. ch *p* *mf*
- ty. True beau - - ty.

T. ch *p* *mf*
- ty. True beau - - ty.

B. ch *p* *mf*
- ty. True beau - - ty.

Hpsd.

Org. *mp*

Vln. 1 *p* *mf*

Vln. 2 *p* *mf*

Vla. *p* *mf*

Gamb. *p* *mf*