

DEREK BELL

NOCTURNE
ON AN ICELANDIC MELODY

Oboe d'amore (Oboe) & Harp (Piano)



AMORIS INTERNATIONAL

www.amoris.com

ASI 006

Derek Bell

(1935-2002)

Derek Bell was born in Belfast, Northern Ireland, in 1935. He studied composition, piano and oboe at the Royal College of Music (London) and was awarded the Manns Prize. Amongst the positions he held during his career were those of principal cor anglais with the City of Belfast Orchestra, principal harp and principal oboe (concurrently) with the BBC Northern Ireland Orchestra, and professor of harp at the Belfast Academy of Music.

In 1976 Derek Bell joined The Chieftains playing harp, tiompán (a small cimbalom-styled hammered dulcimer, which he introduced and named after the mediaeval Irish instrument), oboe and keyboards. He participated in well over 35 CDs with this legendary Irish ensemble.

His compositions include *Pastoral* Overture, Symphony ('The Tragic') in E flat, Symphony No. 2 in D ('The Violet Flame-Comte de St. Germain', performances of which have included the prestigious Edinburgh Festival, 1991), piano works and chamber music. The scores of some of his research into Irish music were published. These include *Immortal Carolan Melodies for Irish Folk Instruments*. ♦

Derek Bell recorded *Toccata burlesca* (one of his *Three Transcendental Concert Studies* ♦) on the album 'Derek Bell Plays With Himself' ♦. This double tracking of various oboes with assorted accompaniments (he performed upon eight instruments) is one of his eight solo albums. Six, with harp, feature the compositions of Turlough O' Carolan (a.k.a. Terence Carolan or [Irish Gaelic] *Toirdhealbhach Ó Cearbhalláin*, 1670 - 1738). A further album features Derek Bell as pianist and many incorporate his beloved traditional Irish music.

This remarkably versatile musician also played bass oboe with The Amoris Consort.

George Derek Fleetwood Bell was awarded the MBE (Member of The Most Excellent Order of The British Empire) in 2000 by Queen Elizabeth II for his services to Irish Music. He died just two years later in Phoenix, Arizona, USA.

♦ Lyra Music Company, NY (1985)

♦ Amoris International (1997)

♦ Claddagh Records (1980)



Nocturne on an Icelandic Melody

Oboe d'amore (Oboe) & Harp (Piano)

A SI 006

The late Ulster composer, Frederick A. Haughton, and I visited Iceland together in 1980. He discovered this traditional melody, which I set for oboe d'amore (or oboe) shortly after our trip. The pedal harp part is equally playable on the piano. I recorded my own performance of the harp accompaniment and, using this track as playback, broadcast the oboe d'amore version for BBC Belfast as its première in 1983.

Derek Bell
1997



Also by Derek Bell published by **Amoris International**

THREE TRANSCENDENTAL CONCERT STUDIES

- I *Ballade pastorale*, Oboe & Piano A SI 024
- II *Légende*, Cor anglais & Piano A SI 025
- III *Toccata burlesca*, Oboe & Piano A SI 026

The studies may be performed separately, in a group of two, or all three together.





www.amoris.com

NOCTURNE ON AN ICELANDIC MELODY

Derek Bell
(1935 - 2002)

❖ Oboe d'amore (Oboe)

Andante con moto

mf (oboe)

Harp (Piano)

mp

p
e sempre espressivo

4

(oboe)

8

crescendo poco a poco

❖ In Concert Pitch

This musical score is for a piece titled "Nocturne on an Icelandic Melody". It is written for a piano and a solo oboe. The score is divided into four systems, each with a treble and bass staff for the piano and a single staff for the oboe. The key signature is three sharps (F#, C#, G#), and the time signature is 3/4. The first system (measures 11-13) features a piano introduction with a *mf* dynamic and a *solo* marking for the oboe. The second system (measures 14-16) continues the piano melody. The third system (measures 17-19) shows the piano accompaniment with arpeggiated figures. The fourth system (measures 20-22) introduces the oboe with a melodic line, while the piano provides a harmonic foundation with arpeggiated patterns. The score includes various musical notations such as slurs, ties, and dynamic markings.

11

11

solo

mf

14

14

17

17

20

20

(oboe)

4

8

7

7

The musical score is written for a single melodic instrument (likely oboe) and a piano accompaniment. The key signature is three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and the time signature is 3/4. The score is divided into four systems, each with a measure number at the beginning of the first staff.

- System 1 (Measures 23-24):** The melodic line begins with a half note G#4, followed by a quarter note A4, and a half note B4. The piano accompaniment features a series of ascending and descending eighth-note runs in the right hand, with fingerings 10, 9, 7, and 7 indicated.
- System 2 (Measures 25-26):** The melodic line continues with a half note C5, followed by a quarter note D5, and a half note E5. The piano accompaniment continues with similar eighth-note runs, with fingerings 10 and 5 indicated.
- System 3 (Measures 27-28):** The melodic line features a half note F#5, followed by a quarter note G#5, and a half note A5. The piano accompaniment includes a series of ascending and descending eighth-note runs, with fingerings 9 and 6 indicated.
- System 4 (Measures 29-30):** The melodic line concludes with a half note B5, followed by a quarter note C6, and a half note D6. The piano accompaniment features a series of ascending and descending eighth-note runs, with fingerings 9 and 6 indicated.

The score includes various musical notations such as slurs, ties, and dynamic markings. The piano part includes dynamic markings *mp*, *mf*, *f*, and *p*. The tempo marking *poco rit.* is present above the final measure of the piano part.

NOCTURNE ON AN ICELANDIC MELODY

Oboe d'amore

Derek Bell
(1935 - 2002)

Andante con moto

mf

crescendo poco a poco

8

mf

poco rit.

NOCTURNE ON AN ICELANDIC MELODY

Oboe

Derek Bell
(1935 - 2002)

Andante con moto

mf

crescendo poco a poco

mf

poco rit.