

Composed for Deborah Andrus

DE PROFUNDIS

**FOR B \flat CLARINET, RECORDED SOUNDS
AND PROJECTED TEXT (DVD)**

by

PATRICK LONG

(2006)

PROGRAM NOTES:

De Profundis for clarinet and multimedia is the third in a cycle of pieces that I think of as my "songs without singing". Language and music (which the human brain seems quite able to fully absorb and process simultaneously) have almost always been brought together via singing. Through synchronized video projection of text however, I am attempting to bring the dimension of text into music without the use of a human speaking or singing voice. In this piece, as the Biblical "De Profundis" prayer is displayed on the screen, the melodies played by the clarinet faithfully set the syllables and implied rhythms of each line of text. This "setting" is quite literal at first, and perhaps the melody could even be sung, but as the piece progresses the connection between the clarinet phrases and the words becomes more abstract and expressive.

TECHNICAL SET UP

Video playback from DVD (or computer, which is preferred) should be projected on a large screen, preferably behind the performer. Audio from video should be audible to the player, and so a stage monitor may be necessary in some venues. Video file can be acquired from:
<http://www.longsound.com/index/dp.html>

PERFORMANCE NOTES:

While it is important that the phrases basically line up with the drones, it is not vital that the rhythms line up precisely with the repeating bass drum notes. Strive to create a sense of almost improvisatory freedom. Shape the phrases dynamically as desired. I haven't written many dynamics, because the overall feeling should be one of quiet contemplation. In the passage from measure 44 - 56, mirror the taped part, and allow the dynamic level to become louder. The "lyrics" marked in the score are for reference. These words appear on the screen, and then the clarinet melody is like a setting of those words.

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Solemn, yearning, desolate $\text{♩} = 41$

Clar. in B \flat

Boom

Drones (in C)

7

[0:36]

12

[1:03]

17

Out of the depths I have cried to

[1:34]

22

you O Lord Lord hear my voice Let thine ears be at-ten-tive to the

[2:02]

27

voice of my sup-li-ca - tion If thou wilt mark in - i - qui - ties O Lord who will

[2:31]

31

— stand a - gainst it? —

[2:56]

35

For with Thee there is mer - cy — and for the sake of Thy law — I have wait - ed — for Thee

[3:20]

39

— O Lord —

[3:45]

44

mf My soul has re - lied — on His word my soul has — hoped — in the — Lord —

[4:10]

48

[4:10]

51

[4:10]

53

7 5 11:8 10

[5:04]

55

3 3 3

58

3 p

[5:34]

61

3 3 3 3

[5:51]

65

p 3 3 3

From the morn - ing watch un - til the night let Is - ra - el hope in the Lord.

[6:14]

68

3 3 3 5

because with the Lord there is mercy,
and with him plentiful redemption.

[6:34]

72

And he shall redeem Israel from all his iniquities.

76

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,

79

and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning,

82

now, and forever, and unto the ages of ages.

86

Amen.