

Cantus In Memory Of Benjamin Britten

<? echo \$this->teaser; ?>

for string orchestra and bell | 6'

world première: 07.04.1977, Estonia Concert Hall, Tallinn; Estonian National
Symphony Orchestra, cond. Eri Klas

In the past years we have had many losses in the world of music to mourn. Why did the date of Benjamin Britten's death – 4 December 1976 – touch such a chord in me? During this time I was obviously at the point where I could recognize the magnitude of such a loss. Inexplicable feelings of guilt, more than that even, arose in me. I had just discovered Britten for myself. Just before his death I began to appreciate the unusual purity of his music – I had had the impression of the same kind of purity in the ballads of Guillaume de Machaut. And besides, for a long time I had wanted to meet Britten personally – and now it would not come to that.

Arvo Pärt

The autograph:

Amfai,



Cantus Benjamin Britteni mälestuseks

1977

Cantus Benjamin Britteni mälestuseks

6
4

Campana *p*

VL-ni I
div.

VL-ni II
div.

V-le

V-celli
div.

c-bassi
div.

1

un sol.
ppp
un sol.

pp

soli
p

mp

[] ~~colla parte~~ colla parte

2

Musical score for system 2, featuring a piano (p) dynamic marking and a mezzo-forte (mf) dynamic marking. The score includes a vocal line and a piano accompaniment with multiple staves.

≡

3

Musical score for system 3, featuring a mezzo-piano (mp) dynamic marking. The score includes a vocal line and a piano accompaniment with multiple staves.

Amfai,



Cantus Benjamin Britteni mälestuseks

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6
4

Campana *p*

VL-ni I
div.

VL-ni II
div.

V-le

V-celli
div.

c-bassi
div.

1

un sol.

ppp un sol.

pp

pp

soli

p

mp

[] ~~colla parte~~

2

Musical score for system 2, marked with a circled '2'. It features a grand staff with five staves. The top staff contains a melodic line with notes and rests. The second staff is a piano accompaniment with chords and single notes. The third and fourth staves are for a cello and double bass, showing a bass line with notes and rests. The fifth staff is for a double bass, showing a bass line with notes and rests. Dynamics include *p* and *mf*. There are also some handwritten markings like 'V' and 'p'.

≡

3

Musical score for system 3, marked with a circled '3'. It features a grand staff with five staves. The top staff contains a melodic line with notes and rests. The second staff is a piano accompaniment with chords and single notes. The third and fourth staves are for a cello and double bass, showing a bass line with notes and rests. The fifth staff is for a double bass, showing a bass line with notes and rests. Dynamics include *mp*. There are also some handwritten markings like 'V' and 'p'.