BENJAMIN BRITTEN

Suite for Cello

Op. 72

Canto primo: Sostenuto e largamente

I Fuga: Andante moderato

II Lamento: Lento rubato

Canto secondo: Sostenuto

III Serenata: Allegretto (pizzicato)

IV Marcia: Alla marcia moderato

Canto terzo: Sostenuto

V Bordone: Moderato quasi recitativo

VI Moto perpetuo e Canto quarto: Presto

The first performance of *Suite for Cello* Op. 72 was given by Mstislav Rostropovich at the Aldeburgh Festival on 27th June 1965.

Duration: c. 21 minutes

SUITE for Cello

Edited by Mstislav Rostropovich

BENJAMIN BRITTEN Op. 72

CANTO PRIMO



I FUGA



BENJAMIN BRITTEN

Second Suite for Cello

Op. 80

I Declamato: Largo
II Fuga: Andante
III Scherzo: Allegro molto
IV Andante lento
V Ciaccona: Allegro

The first performance of Second Suite for Cello Op. 80 was given by Mstislav Rostropovich at the Aldeburgh Festival on 17th June 1968.

Duration: c. 22 minutes

SECOND SUITE

for Cello

Edited by Mstislav Rostropovich

BENJAMIN BRITTEN Op. 80

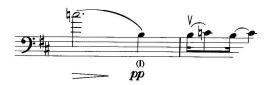
I DECLAMATO















BENJAMIN BRITTEN

Third Suite for Cello

Op. 87

I Introduzione: Lento

II Marcia: Allegro

III Canto: Con moto

IV Barcarola: Lento

V Dialogo: Allegretto

VI Fuga: Andante espressivo

VII Recitativo: Fantastico

VIII Moto perpetuo: Presto

IX Passacaglia: Lento solenne

The first performance of *Third Suite for Cello* Op. 87 was given by Mstislav Rostropovich at The Maltings, Snape on 21st December 1974.

Duration: c. 22 minutes

I wrote this suite in the early spring of 1971 and took it as a present to Slava Rostropovich when Peter Pears and I visited Moscow and Leningrad in April of that year. The occasion was a week of British music, and our programme with the London Symphony Orchestra was made memorable by the fact that both Richter and Rostropovich joined us – surely a unique gesture of Anglo-Russian friendship.

As a tribute to a great Russian musician and patriot I based this suite on Russian themes: the first three tunes were taken from Tchaikovsky's volumes of folk-song arrangements; the fourth, the 'Kontakion' (Hymn for the Departed), from the *English Hymnal*. When I played the suite through to Dmitri Shostakovich during our visit to Moscow, he remarked that he had been brought up on a different version of the Kontakion. I consulted my friend Bishop Pimen of Saratov and Volgograd, who confirmed that my version was the one he had always known and regularly used. In the score I print both versions, for players to choose whichever they prefer.

THIRD SUITE for Cello

Edited by Mstislav Rostropovich

BENJAMIN BRITTEN Op. 87



^{*}В скобках указаны пальцы левой руки, которыми следует играть (pizz.)

Numbers in brackets refer to the fingers of the left hand with which this should be played (pizz.)