

CD RELEASE INFORMATION FOR PRESS/MEDIA

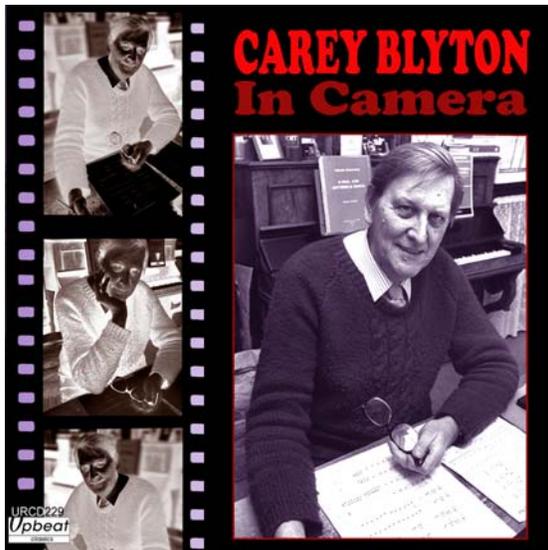
Carey Blyton "In Camera"

To many generations of children and parents, the name BLYTON has become a byword for excellence in the writing of children's stories. Titles made famous by Enid Blyton, such as *Noddy* and *The Famous Five* have sold millions of copies throughout the world.

CAREY BLYTON followed in the footsteps of his famous aunt and is enjoying worldwide success with his children's nonsense poem *Bananas in Pyjamas* – now a multi-million dollar empire.

Carey Blyton is primarily a miniaturist, composing mainly songs, chamber music and short orchestral scores. His works include a series of guitar pieces for the Italian guitarist, Angelo Gilardino, about a dozen works for the London Saxophone Quartet, many works involving wind instruments and works reflecting his life-long interest in the music and art of the East, particularly Japan. His interest in writing for children is shown in various commissions from the BBC for schools cantatas in the series *Music Workshop*, the incidental music for three *Dr Who* serials, the Victorian mini-melodramas, and a number of books for children, including *Bananas in Pyjamas* - a book of nonsense songs and poems which has made his name well-known throughout the English-speaking world.

The music on this album is a selection taken from the many CDs that are available of his works. Full details of all the individual CDs, each with a wealth of diversity and glorious music, can be found at the end of the CD booklet. For further information, please take time to browse through his website – www.careyblyton.co.uk



Title:	Carey Blyton "In Camera"
Artist(s):	Various
Label:	Upbeat Recordings (UK via Discovery Distribution)
Catalogue No.:	URCD229
Bar Code:	0604388727827
Format:	Single CD/Standard Jewel Case
UK PPD:	£8.40
Release Date:	9 th November 2009

Tracklisting

DR WHO MUSIC - SILURIAN SUITE, Op. 102 for Trumpet in Bb & Piano (*Angela Whelan, trumpet and Jennifer Partridge, piano*): In the Caves/A Close Encounter/ March: The Brigadier

DR WHO MUSIC - VOGAN SUITE, Op.101 for Horn in F & Piano (*Stephen Roberts, horn and Jennifer Partridge, piano*): Deep Space/Vogan March/All's well.....that ends well!"

DR WHO MUSIC - DALEK SUITE, Op.103 for Saxophone Quartet (*The Phoenix Saxophone Quartet*): A Desolate Landscape/Chants & Variants/Dalek 'March' & Retreat

IN MEMORIAM DJANGO REINHARDT, Op.64 Two Variations & A Theme [edited by Angelo Gilardino] (*The Hand/Dupre Guitar Duo*): Prelude (Var.1)/Elegy (Var.2)/Django Reinhardt's Stomp (Theme)

THE WAR SONG OF THE SARACENS Op.106 for SATB Choir & Piano (*Canzonetta with Jennifer Partridge piano*)

PRAYERS FROM THE ARK Op. 48 Seven Songs for High Voice & Piano (*Beryl Korman, soprano, Jennifer Partridge, piano*): The Prayer of the Cock/The Prayer of the Goldfish/The Prayer of the Cat/The Prayer of the Tortoise/The Prayer of the Mouse/The Prayer of the Ox/The Prayer of the Lark

TWO PENSIVE SONGS Op.10 (1951) for Tenor & Piano (*Ian Partridge, tenor and Jennifer Partridge piano*): Two Stolen Roses (words by Carey Blyton)/Come, Night (words by Donald R.Hills)

PASTICHERIES (non-Boulangerie), Op.82 (*The Cann Piano Duo*): The Return of Bulgy Gogo – ragtime (a tribute to Peter Warlock)/The Velvet Gentleman – a la bossienne (a tribute to Erik Satie)/Up the Faringdon Road! – Valse Brilliantine (a tribute to Lord Berners)

SAXE BLUE Op.65 (*The Phoenix Saxophone Quartet*)

LACHRYMAE – IN MEMORIAL JOHN DOWLAND (*Ian Partridge, tenor, The Britten Sinfonia*): Prelude/Song (1): Madrigal (William Drummond)/Interlude I/Song (2): The Moon (Percy Bysshe Shelley)/Interlude II/Song (3): The Open Door (Francis Weiss)/Interlude III/Song (4): The Sick Rose (William Blake)/Interlude IV/Song (5): Sonnet (Samuel Daniel)/Postlude

BLUE CHRISTMAS for Voice and Piano (*Soo-Bee-Lee, soprano, Raphael Terroni piano*)

Total Playing Time 74:27

Further details

The Carey Blyton story is fascinating and is sure to be of interest to many. Likewise we feel very strongly that Carey's music is deserving of being discovered by a much wider audience than has heard it to date.

The disc will be fully serviced to press and media review copies are available from John Cronin at Music and Media Consulting.

Carey's widow, Mary, is available for interview if required.

Carey Blyton - Biography

Carey Blyton was born in Kent in 1932. In 1947/8 he was stricken with Polio and his interest in music came about through his convalescence in an effort to while away the time. The years from 1948 - when Carey began to take piano lessons and start to show an increasing interest in music - to 1953 - when he commenced his formal training as a musician - were crucial years, in which his style as a composer was forged. These years included his participation in the activities of *The Beckenham Salon* as accompanist in his own songs and have been described by one writer as his 'naive period'.

In 1953 he entered Trinity College of Music, London, and studied there for four years, culminating in being awarded the Sir Granville Bantock Prize for Composition amongst other achievements. In 1958, he became music editor to Mills Music Ltd in Denmark Street ('Tin Pan Alley'), which position he held for five years. After June 1963 he freelanced as composer, arranger, music editor and lecturer. He was Professor of Harmony, Counterpoint & Orchestration at Trinity College of Music, London, from 1963 to 1973, and Visiting Professor of Composition for Film, Television & Radio at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama, London, from 1972 to 1983, where he pioneered the first course of tuition in these specialised aspects of musical composition at a musical conservatoire in this country. In September, 1964, he was appointed music editor to the Music Department of Faber & Faber Ltd (now Faber Music Ltd), which position he held until 1974. While at Faber's he was Benjamin Britten's personal editor, from 1963 to 1971, being responsible for the editorial work on that composer's works from *Curlew River* to *Owen Wingrave*, and on many works by Gustav Holst.

In the documentary film and television fields, in which Carey Blyton worked since 1963, he contributed scores to several international prize-winning films such as *Low Water*, *The Goshawk* and *Flying Birds*, and incidental music to many BBC-TV productions such as *Dr. Who*, both *Somerset Maugham* series, *Play for Today*, *The Wednesday Play* and *The Web of Life* series. He has some 20 pieces in the recorded music libraries of several music publishers, including several for full orchestra, and in the period 1963 to 1971 he wrote the music tracks for some 30 television commercials.

Works in later years included *The Girl from Nogami*, a one act opera commissioned by the Opera Department of the Guildhall School of Music and Drama, London. *A Sherlock Holmes Suite* for Brass Quintet, commissioned by the London Gabrieli Brass Ensemble, *Yugen* for Solo Guitar, commissioned for an album of contemporary guitar music (Oxford University Press), *Sweeney Todd the Barber, Dracula!* or *The Vampire Vanquished* and *Frankenstein* or *A Bolt from the Blue*, three Victorian mini-melodramas for schools (the first two named recorded by Meridian Records), *After Hokusai*, 5 Duets for 2 Flutes based on Hokusai prints and *The Indian Coffee House Roof Garden Orchestra Tango* (or *The Last Tango in Pondy*) for Wind Quartet (for the *Workshop 21* School Series), commissioned by Universal Edition Ltd and a *Nursery Song Suite* for SATB unaccompanied, commissioned by The Scholars for an EMI recording. Later commissions include two for the London Borough of Bromley's *Battle of Britain* Arts Festival, 1990 - *Scramble!*, a fanfare for brass, and an arrangement of *Lilli Marlene* for children's choir (almost 1000 voices!), two pianos and side-drum; and a little suite of 'mechanical pieces' for strings, commissioned by the Petersfield Area Schools' String Orchestra, called *Musica Mechanica*.

On the literary front, a sixth short story, *A Very Good Rate of Exchange*, appeared in the June, 1994 ; his memories of evacuation during World War II as a 12-year-old to Somerset to escape the V1's, *Summer in the Country*, have been published in an anthology of evacuee stories, *Children in Retreat*; and a commissioned short story, *Beggar Your Neighbour*, has appeared in an anthology of stories by disabled writers aimed at a disabled readership, published, for the National Library for the Handicapped Child.

Chief among numerous unpublished writings is his monumental *In Search of Serendipity*, a travel journal of a six-month trip Blyton made to Sri Lanka and India between 1984 and 1985. Vastly entertaining and companionable, Blyton's charm and humour infiltrate virtually every sentence of this huge 'albatross' - as he came to view it and its demands to be kept up every day!

Carey Blyton enjoyed something of an 'Indian Summer' of creativity in his last years, though generally he was prolific throughout his life, as his catalogue shows. Late works of particular note nearly all exhibit his leanings toward 'the mysterious East', from *In The Spice Markets of Zanzibar* for brass quintet to *Lyrics from the East* for tenor and piano (a short epigrammatic song-cycle based on Eastern poems, written for Ian and Jennifer Partridge). One of his very last works was *El Tango Ultimo* for symphony orchestra - the essence of Blyton's art in a brief '*Tango cromatico*'.

Also among these last compositions is *Vale, Diana!*, a poignant tribute to Diana, Princess of Wales, scored for string orchestra, and his *Dirge for St Patrick's Night* (a Ballad for voice and piano) setting to music a poem by Elsa Corbluth written in memory of her daughter, Eilidh, who tragically died aged 18.

His *Collected Short Stories* together with *Summer in the Country* were published in 2002, shortly before he died of cancer and post-polio syndrome.