

- NIGEL CLARKE -



NIGEL CLARKE began his musical career as a military bandsman but a developing interest in composition, stimulated by the New Polish School of composers, took him to the Royal Academy of Music to study with Paul Patterson. Here his striking originality and capacity for hard work were recognised by several significant awards including the Josiah Parker Prize adjudicated by Sir Michael Tippett and the Queen's Commendation for Excellence – the Royal Academy of Music's highest distinction.

Nigel Clarke was previously Young Composer in Residence at the Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts, Composition and Contemporary Music Tutor at the Royal Academy of Music, London, Head of Composition at the London College of Music and Media and Associate Composer to the world famous Black Dyke Mills Band. He has also been guest professor at the Xinjiang Arts Institute in north-west China and Associate Composer to the Royal Military School of Music, Kneller Hall.

In 1997 the United States of America Ambassador (William J. Crowe, Jr.) invited Nigel to join the United States' International Visitor Leadership Programme sponsored by the US Information Agency. This offered him the unique opportunity to tour the USA in order to observe and experience different aspects of musical culture including jazz, classical and Native American music. This tour culminated in a performance of his work 'Samurai' by the 'Presidents Own' United States Marine Band. More recently he has become a visiting tutor at the Royal Northern College of Music and the Associate Composer to the Band of HM Grenadier Guards and Brass Band Buizingen. In 2008 the award of Doctor of Musical Arts was conferred upon him by Salford University. In 2010 Nigel's brass band work 'Earthrise' was premiered at the 2010 European Brass Band Championships in Linz, Austria.

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