

Performance Notes

Of old Angkor is written for two instrumentalists.

French Horn (in F)

The horn player also plays 3 Asian gongs and a tam-tam. It is preferred the gongs have the approximate pitches of A, E, and G (as indicated at measure 32) but a similarly interrelated group of pitched gongs may be substituted.

Marimba

Written one octave higher than sounding pitch throughout

Duration 6½ minutes

In June 1970 there was great concern for the fate of the ancient shrine of Angkor Wat, which seemed likely to be damaged or destroyed by the war. I decided to make the piece a lament for the glory of the old Angkor Wat, that for centuries had been the capital and centre of the flourishing Khmer empire. In writing for the horn and marimba I had in mind the Cambodian natural horn, the sneng, and a type of Asian xylophone.

Helen Gifford

Edition RH 937

Copyright © 1995 Red House Editions
Box 2123 Footscray Vic 3011 Australia
All rights reserved.