

“Carpentaria”

by Richard Charlton

A suite for guitar & percussion

Composer’s Programme notes:-

While returning from the 1997 Darwin International Guitar Festival our flight took us over the very top end of Australia. In particular the plane called at ‘Gove’, a mining town situated on the western rim of the Gulf of Carpentaria. I was struck by the unusual colours of the country, particularly when seen from the air. The earth really is very ‘red’, the colour of the sea in the Gulf is a wonderful deep turquoise and there are miles & miles of deserted coastline! When composing this suite I tried to imbue the music with this sense of colour and distance.

The piece is in three movements titled, “Red Earth”, “Distant Shores” & “Turquoise Tide” and was composed in 1999 for Craig Ogden and Paul Tanner.

Percussion needed:-

Marimba; Vibraphone; Tam Tam; Bass Drum; Suspended Cymbal; (Finger cymbals or Triangle).

(Guitar may be amplified to achieve a suitable balance)

* I am indebted to Gary France at the ANU, (who also performed this piece with Carolyn Kidd) for his help and advice on many details in the percussion writing.

Suggested Layout:-

