

PAVANE OP.50

Gabriel Fauré arr. Hiscocks

For piano solo

PROGRAMME NOTES

Fauré originally scored his famous *Pavane* op. 50 in the summer of 1887 for piano and orchestra. The choir and orchestra version most familiar with today's audiences followed after a request from his patron Elisabeth, comtesse Greffulhe. Her cousin, Robert de Montesquiou, provided the lyrics and in 1891, she supported a production involving dancers as well as chorus for a performance at one of her garden parties in the Bois de Boulogne.

Almost a century later, Hiscocks created this piano solo arrangement of the *Pavane* for her piano students to enjoy. Roy Howat then included it in a series of Faure's piano music that he was editing for Edition Peters; his informative preface drew attention to the faster tempo preferred by Faure who explained the light hearted nature of the *Pavane* was not to be treated as if it were a piece of German Romanticism.