

THE UNHEEDED PAGEANT

For string orchestra

PROGRAMME NOTES

The Unheeded Pageant takes its inspiration from Rabindranath Tagore's poem of the same title, describing events in the life of a young child. The music focuses on three elements from the poem: A dance-like theme near the beginning corresponds to the interaction between a mother and child—"She claps her hands and her bracelets jingle, and you dance with your bamboo stick in your hand like a tiny little shepherd."

A scherzando motif represents the wind who "carries away in glee the tinkling of your anklet bells." A more ethereal legato theme reflects the realm of heaven—"The fairy mistress of dreams is coming towards you, flying through the twilight sky." Later in the movement, themes from the realm of heaven and earth are intermingled.

The Unheeded Pageant was premiered on 6 April 2002 at the Festival Kallmünz in Bavaria, by the Festivalorchester Kallmünz conducted by Graham Buckland.