

TOCCATA

For piano solo

PROGRAMME NOTES

In 1983 Wendy Hiscocks was studying with Peter Sculthorpe at Sydney University. '**Toccata** was composed in response to a workshop commission for the Sydney Schumann Society. The work was influenced by the composer's introduction to Indian raga from Professor Peter Platt, and by encouragement from Peggy Glanville-Hicks to concentrate on melody and rhythm. Sally Mays was the first professional pianist to work with the composer on the score during those student years and to whom the **Toccata** is dedicated with affection.

*'As a student, I was far more interested in Professor Peter Platt's history lectures when he removed his shoes and sat cross legged on the table with a sitar in his hands. This began my love of Indian raga. It co-incided with my trips to see Peggy Glanville-Hicks in her Paddington terraced home for elevenses where we discussed the importance of melody and rhythm. **Toccata** is the result of these early influences.'*