



Julian Wagstaff

Composer

Catalogue of works 2015

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Biography

Julian Wagstaff lives in his native Edinburgh where he is active as a composer, arranger and guitarist. He worked as a translator, television researcher and computer programmer before turning to music as a profession in the late 1990s. His interest in language, political history and the sciences continues to be reflected in much of his music and in his theatre libretti. He studied Composition at Edinburgh University with Professor Nigel Osborne, receiving his PhD in 2008.

The composer first came to public attention in 2001 with the musical *John Paul Jones*, based on the life of the Scots-born sailor and hero of the American Revolution. The musical was revived in 2010 in association with the Scottish Chamber Orchestra. Julian's specific interest in German history is reflected in *Treptow* for string orchestra (2005), his most-performed work. This piece, which won the 2005 Emre Araci Prize, was inspired by the Soviet War Memorial in Treptow Park in east Berlin. His Piano Quintet was released on Circular Records in November 2007 on an album entitled *Frontiers and Bridges*, performed by the Edinburgh Quartet and produced by Calum Malcolm.

In August 2007, Julian Wagstaff presented his hour-long chamber opera *The Turing Test on the Edinburgh Festival Fringe*, to sell-out audiences and excellent reviews. The opera was cited by the novelist Alexander McCall Smith as his cultural highlight of the year in the *Daily Telegraph's* Review of the Year.

In 2011, Julian was commissioned by the Royal Society of Chemistry to compose a new piano trio to celebrate International Year of Chemistry. The work, entitled *A Persistent Illusion*, was premiered by Hebrides Ensemble in the same year, and has gone on to enjoy numerous performances in Scotland and beyond.

Julian enjoys close connections with many of Scotland's leading musicians, and his works are widely performed. He recently served as Composer in Residence at the School of Chemistry, University of Edinburgh. His chamber opera *Breathe Freely* was commissioned during his tenure there, and was premièred in 2013 in a production supported by Scottish Opera and conducted by Derek Clark. A recording of the opera is released on the Linn Records label in October 2015.

He is published by Europa Edition.

Musical Theatre and Opera

John Paul Jones

A musical play in two acts
Libretto by the composer

Stage musical based on the life of the Scots-born hero of the American Revolution and 'father of the American Navy'

Year of composition: 2000

Instrumentation: 9 solo voices, large chorus, theatre orchestra

Duration: 2hrs, 10mins

Date of first performance: 14 July 2001

CD Recording: The Freedom Company 2002

Website: www.JohnPaulJonesMusical.com



What Goes Around

A musical play
Libretto by Mike Gibb

This generational comedy was written for a small cast of principal players. The songs are generally comedic and light in character - though always with a degree of mortal pathos lurking just below the surface.

Year of composition: 2004

Instrumentation: piano plus male/female voices

Duration: 55 mins.

Continues...

The Turing Test

A chamber opera

Libretto by the composer

Inspired by English mathematician Alan Turing's test for human-level intelligence in a computer, this opera was a sell-out success on the 2007 Edinburgh Festival Fringe.

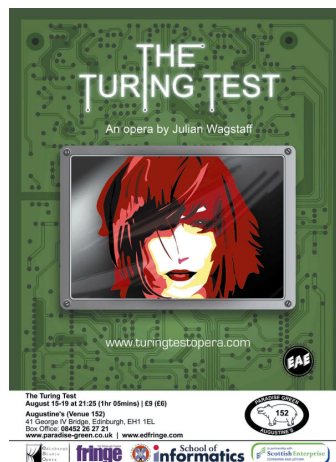
Year of composition: 2007

Instrumentation: 6 solo voices, theatre orchestra

Duration: 1 hour

Date of first performance: 15 August 2007

Website: www.TuringTestOpera.com



Breathe Freely

A chamber opera

Libretto by the composer

This short opera was commissioned by the University of Edinburgh to celebrate the Tercentenary of its School of Chemistry in 2013. The première production was supported by Scottish Opera.

Year of composition: 2013

Instrumentation: mezzo-soprano, tenor, baritone (voice), clarinet, cello, piano

Duration: 40 mins

Date of first performance: 24 October 2013

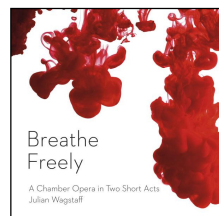
Vocal score published by Europa Edition.

IMSN-13: 979-0-9002193-4-3



CD recording available on Linn Records from 16 October 2015

Website: www.BreatheFreelyOpera.co.uk



Chamber Music

Piano Quintet

Dedicated to Alina Kolonitskaya

Year of composition: 2002

Instrumentation: piano and string quartet

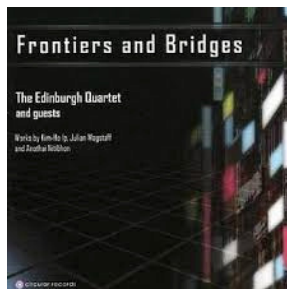
Duration: 20 mins

Date of first performance: 24 April 2003

Published by Europa Edition: ISMN: M-9002133-0-3

CD recording: *Frontiers and Bridges*, the Edinburgh Quartet (Circular Records CR1014)

Website: www.julianwagstaff.com/musicp3.htm



Treptow - for string quartet

Artist's response to the Soviet war memorial in Treptow Park, Berlin

Year of composition: 2004

Instrumentation: string quartet

Duration: 9 mins, 30 secs

Date of first performance: 7 March 2006

Published by Europa Edition: ISMN-13: 979-0-9002193-2-9

Website: www.julianwagstaff.com/musicp5.htm

In Extremis - for string trio

Written in collaboration with scientists at the Centre for Science At Extreme Conditions.

Year of composition: 2011

Instrumentation: violin, viola and cello

Duration: 23 minutes

Date of first performance: 19 April 2011

Website: www.julianwagstaff.com/musicp9.com

A Persistent Illusion

Commissioned by the Royal Society of Chemistry (local section) to celebrate International Year of Chemistry 2011.

Year of composition: 2011

Instrumentation: clarinet, cello and piano

Duration: 19 minutes

Date of first performance: 12 December 2011

Website: www.julianwagstaff.com/musicp10.htm

Music for Orchestra

Symphonic Overture from John Paul Jones

A symphonic work based on themes from the stage musical

Year of composition: 2004

Instrumentation: symphony orchestra

Duration: 13 mins

Date of first performance: 1 April 2006

Website: www.julianwagstaff.com/musicp4

Orchestral medley from John Paul Jones

An instrumental medley of songs from the stage show, for youth and community orchestras

Year of composition: 2004

Instrumentation: symphony orchestra

Duration: 9 mins

Date of first performance: 14 May 2004

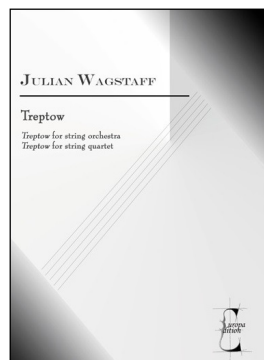
Website: www.julianwagstaff.com/musicp4

Treptow for string orchestra

Orchestral version of the quartet inspired by the Soviet war memorial in Treptow Park, Berlin.

Year of composition: 2005
Instrumentation: string orchestra
Duration: 9 mins, 30 secs
Date of first performance: 29 April 2005
Published by Europa Edition:
ISMN-13: 979-0-9002193-2-9

Website: www.julianwagstaff.com/musicp5.htm



Symphony for Chamber Orchestra

Commissioned by the University of Edinburgh Chamber Orchestra

Year of composition: 2005
Instrumentation: chamber orchestra
Duration: 25 mins
Date of first performance: 12 November 2005

Website: www.julianwagstaff.com/musicp6.htm

Solos, Duos and Songs

Für Anothai

Dedicated to Anothai Nitibhon

Year of composition: 2001
Instrumentation: solo piano
Duration: 3 mins
Date of first performance: 1 December 2001

Sonata for Alto Saxophone and Piano

Commissioned by Johanne Jefferson (née McMullan)

Year of composition: 2005

Instrumentation: alto saxophone, piano.

Duration: 12 mins

Date of first performance: 25 May 2005

Hebridean Sunset Rag

Commissioned by Vicky Jones and Nicholas Ashton

Year of composition: 2006

Instrumentation: violin, piano. Versions are also available for flute and piano, flute and guitar, and clarinet, cello and piano.

Duration: 4 mins

Date of first performance: 25 May 2006

Two songs from "People", a musical play

'Just Say Your Name' and 'What Do You Mean?'

Libretto: David Levin

Year of composition: 2009

Instrumentation: 3 solo voices, piano

Duration: 1hr (complete play)

Date of first performance: 8 August 2009

Bits and Pieces of Weather (song)

Commissioned by Julia Horton for her mother Margaret

Year of composition: 2013

Instrumentation: mezzo-soprano voice, piano

Duration: 4 mins

Lyrics by Margaret Horton

Where to Find the Music

The first place to look for all of Julian Wagstaff's music, including published scores, commercial recordings, free audio and video samples, is the official website at **www.julianwagstaff.com**, where you can also sign up for the composer's newsletter.

Published scores are available from the Europa Edition website at **www.europaedition.com**. They can also be ordered from many major online book retailers.

Sheet music for almost all of Julian's works, whether published or not, is available for digital download from **www.sheetmusicplus.com**. Just search for the composer by name.

CD recordings are available from most online retailers and digital download channels such as iTunes and Spotify, or via the composer's website.

Free audio samples are available online at **www.soundcloud.com/julian-wagstaff**, while videos are available at **www.youtube.com/user/julianwagstaffmusic**.

A useful one-stop shop for scores and recordings is the Scottish Music Centre. They can be reached by telephone on +44 (0)141 552 5222 or on the Web at **www.scottishmusiccentre.com**.

If you can't find what you're looking for, if you have any queries regarding performing rights or performance materials, or to discuss proposals for future projects or collaborations, please do not hesitate to contact the composer directly on +44 (0)131 208 5373 or by email at **julian@julianwagstaff.com**.

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