

Réflexions, Rose Nord

for vibraphone and bass clarinet

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RÉFLEXIONS, ROSE NORD, 1991-6

Anthony Gilbert, b.1934

The three great rose windows of Chartres cathedral have hypnotised me for sixty years, but only in 1991 did I even begin to feel ready to respond to them musically. *Réflexions* is the first of the triptych of pieces for woodwind and percussion I have now written in celebration of them. It reflects upon the north rose window's massive calm and rhythmic simplicity - rings of Kings of Judah and minor prophets (twelve of each), then doves and angels surrounding virgin and child. All is symmetrical, all is light in that window and all reflects upon imagery in the lancets below the south and west roses. So my piece is circular, ending as it begins: six very slow, simple inward-curving shapes reflecting upon a *Sanctus* plainchant, each a reflexion on the one before, and with pitch-content in vibraphone reflecting that in bass clarinet.

A.G.

Preview File Only

47 48 49 50 51

52 53 54 55 56

57 58 59

Chartres 12.7.91-
 N. Tenthill 25.12.96

ca. 4'51"

Preview File Only