

PHILHARMONIC OVERTURE

(programme notes)

The Philharmonic Overture was commissioned by Oude Libertas for the 1981 Republic Festival and was first performed as part of the Festival in Durban and Pietermaritzburg by the SABC Junior Orchestra under the direction of Walter Mony and was subsequently performed by them during their tour of South America having performances in Ascuncion and Montevideo.

In view of the nature of the commission the Philharmonic Overture is written in a direct musical language so as to give it a general appeal. The form of the work differs from the traditional overture in that it does not have the customary first and second themes but is based on three elements which are a flourish on strings and woodwinds, a melodic cell on wind and ever rising bitonal chords on brass and the development of these three ideas.

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GRAHAM NEWCATER