NEIGHBORHOOD MUSIC SCHOOL
presents

THE 2016
RENNÉE B. FISHER PIANO
COMPETITION

The Strath
by Edmund Jolliffe

ELEMENTARY / MIDDLE SCHOOL
DIVISION WORK
Commissioned by the Renée B. Fisher Foundation
Edmund Jolliffe Biography

Edmund studied music at Oxford University and completed a Masters in Film Composition at the Royal College of Music, under Academy Award Winner Dario Marianelli. He also studied on the Advanced Composition Course at Dartington International Summer School and completed an artistic residency at the Banff Centre, Canada, in 2010.

Performers of his music include the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra, Nicholas Cleobury, David Campbell, Darragh Morgan, John Rutter, Frances-Marie Uitti, David Titterington, James Bowman, O Duo, Nicholas Collon, the Micallef-Inanga Piano Duo, Rarescale, The Royal College of Music Saxophones, RWCMD Saxophone Choir, Trinity College of Music Wind Orchestra, Ensemble 10/10 (of the RPO), Sounds New, Kensington Chamber Orchestra and the Chapel Royal of St. James’s Palace, amongst others.

His music is performed all over the world and in many prestigious UK venues including the Wigmore Hall, St. John’s Smith Square, the Queen Elizabeth Hall, the Purcell Room, the Old Vic Theatre, Cadogan Hall, Westminster Abbey and St Paul’s Cathedral.

Recent commissions include a musical for the Cultural Olympiad ‘A River runs through’ and a piece for the Stravinsky Ensemble. He was the winner of the Renée B. Fisher Composer Award for 2016. In 2015 he also won the Hendrix College Candelight Carol Competition and the Ely Consort Advent Composing Competition. His music is published by OUP, Stainer and Bell, Reed and Recital Music.

He also writes music for TV, where shows include the BBC 1 series ‘Who do you think you are?’ and the ITV series ‘Long Lost Family’. He has released two albums ‘The Great War’ and ‘Are we Alone?’

More information about him can be found at: www.edmundjolliffe.com.
**The Strath** – Performer Notes

'The Strath' is inspired by the Scottish Strathspey dance. The melody, first heard in bars 1-7 and used as the basis for the whole piece, is an original one, though it should have the feel of a traditional Scottish Melody. The music explores this tune in different ways, and veers off at tangents, sometimes extreme, only to be drawn back again.

The piece should be played with a sense of drama and at times wild abandon (imagine a Scottish King enjoying himself at a party, sometimes dancing but not always fully remembering the tune he is dancing to and sometimes being a little unsteady on his feet). It is designed to explore different techniques of piano playing, such as sounding harmonics in the beginning, clusters, glissandos, as well as exploring the whole range of the piano.

Where octaves are used (bars 66-89), if the player’s hands are too small to manage them comfortably, they may play the bottom note only.

This piece was the winner of the Renée B. Fisher 2016 Composer Award. (Elementary/ Middle School Division).

'The Strath' lasts approximately 3’30".
The Strath

Edmund Joliffe

Lento $J = 72$

Piano

$f$ marcato poco rubato senza ped.

* Depress without sounding


A little faster, strictly in time $J = 84$

RH to the fore

$f$ a little stiff

$LH$ to the fore

poco accel.

more playful

A little faster accel.

Copyright © Edmund Joliffe 4/3/15
* Cluster - notes unimportant, but bottom note must be D
Tempo Primo $j = 72$

$p$ semplice senza ped. resigned and a little sad

poco rit. A tempo rit.
lontano una corda

A Tempo $j = 144$

fff ferocious senza ped. tre corde