

Sonata for Three Cellos and Oboe Geoffrey Palmer

Soliloquy

Canon

Lovesong

Scherzo and Chorale

Yuqolilos

This short sonata was written in January 1992 for students of mine and was performed that year in St Cuthbert's Church, Wells, and in Wells Cathedral. At the "heart" of the work, in all senses, is a *Lovesong* in which the oboe's simple melody is expanded, commented upon, and finally reversed - until the music ends up at the chord from which it had begun. Around this central core are two faster movements, mostly or exclusively for the cellos - a strict *Canon*, and a rhythmic *Scherzo* within which is enfolded a *Chorale* which began life as a Christmas carol. The outermost movements were originally both called *Soliloquy*, until one of the work's 1992 performers noticed that the last movement is an exact mirror image of the first.