

Alec Roth – THE HERMIT ON THE ICE – words by Vikram Seth

for tenor and violin (or oboe, or flute, or clarinet) and keyboard (or harp)

first performed by James Gilchrist (tenor), Philippe Honoré (violin), Rustem Hayroudinoff (piano), Wilton Church (Salisbury Festival), 1 June 2009
version with oboe first performed by Mark Padmore (tenor), Nicholas Daniel (oboe), Roger Vignoles (piano), Brinkburn Priory, 4 July 2010

Hermits sit on the ice, deep in meditation or trance, in the highest reaches of the River Ganga.

The Hermit on the Ice was composed as a companion piece to the Salisbury/Chelsea/Lichfield Festival commissions [Seven Elements](#) (for tenor and piano) and [Seven Elements Suite](#) (for violin and piano), as a short work to engage all three performers. The poem makes reference to all seven elements (earth, air, fire, water, wood, metal, space), and the title parallels that of Franz Schubert's *The Shepherd on the Rock*, which was included on the same concert programme in an adaptation by Alec Roth for tenor, violin and piano.

DURATION

ca. 4 minutes

FORCES REQUIRED

Tenor with Violin (or Oboe, or Flute, or Clarinet) and Keyboard (or Harp)

PERFORMANCE MATERIALS

Vocal Score (Keyboard and Harp play from the Vocal Score)

Violin Part

Oboe/Flute Part

Clarinet Part

SCORE SAMPLE

1. [Click here](#) for a sample page of the [Vocal Score](#)