

Alec Roth – **OTHER EARTHS AND SKIES** – words by Vikram Seth after Li Bai

five miniatures after Li Bai for tenor and oboe

commissioned by the Brinkburn Summer Music Festival

first performed by Mark Padmore (tenor) and Nicholas Daniel (oboe), Town Hall, Rochdale, Brinkburn Priory, Northumberland, 4 July 2010

1. In the Quiet Night
2. A Song of Qiu-pu
3. Question and Answer in the Mountains
4. The Waterfall at Lu Shan
5. Seeing Meng Haoran off to Yangzhou

Li Bai (701-762) is recognised as one of China's finest poets. He lived at a time of great cultural achievement, but also experienced the upheaval and misery of a terrible civil war. Although his writing can be vivid and exuberant, with an especially intense feeling for nature, it is often coloured by an underlying melancholy. The five short poems presented here cover a wide range of subject matter: homesickness; monkeys playing in the moonlight; the consolations of solitude; a spectacular waterfall; parting from an old friend. The translations from the Chinese were made by Vikram Seth and appear in his collection *Three Chinese Poets* (1992).

DURATION

ca. 11 minutes

FORCES REQUIRED

Tenor and Oboe

PERFORMANCE MATERIALS

Voice Score

Oboe Score

SCORE SAMPLE

Click here for sample pages of the [Voice Score](#); [Oboe Score](#)