

Kostas Rekleitis

The Completed Parthenon on Calton Hill

for Alto, cello, and piano

Op. 23

A poem by Ron Butlin

Music by

Edinburgh, June 2014

The National Monument on Calton Hill was built to commemorate those killed in the Napoleonic Wars. Designed in imitation of the Parthenon, it was begun in 1826 and abandoned unfinished when the money ran out. Sometimes, however, ghosts have other plans. . .

The Completed Parthenon on Calton Hill

Toiling along Princes street, then up Waterloo Place,
a Doric pillar on each shoulder. Victorious immortal—
us and our classically proportioned backbreaking loads.

We left our dead on the battlefield — they are always allowed for
in advance, calculated like futures, hedge funds,
algorithms of acceptable loss.

Everyone's conscience is clear, and when the sum don't
don't work out no one's to blame
but history.

Two centuries on, we've slowed to a standstill almost—
nothing more than a trick of the light,
our exhaustion the wind sighing high above the city.

The completed Parthenon is all that matters. We'll get there.
One day we'll slot the missing pillars in, cement them
stick on a roof, a frieze.

Until then we only keep going.

Below us, the spread out streets and shopping malls
surge electric,
what's human soon delivers up its soul.

Whoever wanders here, take care. These unfinished
stones mark unfinished wars — as all wars are.

From the book *The Magicians of Edinburgh*
Polygon 2012

The Completed Parthenon on Calton Hill

Poem: Ron Butlin

dur ~ 7':20"

Music: Kostas Rekleitis

c. 108

The musical score is presented in three systems. The first system (measures 1-4) features a Soprano part with a whole rest, a Violoncello part starting with a forte (*f*) dynamic and a triplet, and a Piano part with a piano (*p*) dynamic. The second system (measures 5-8) shows the Soprano with a whole rest, the Violoncello with a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic and a melodic line, and the Piano with a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic. The third system (measures 10-13) shows the Soprano with a whole rest, the Violoncello with a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic and a melodic line including a quintuplet, and the Piano with a piano (*p*) dynamic.

The Completed Parthenon on Calton Hill

16

S

Vc.

Pno.

piu meno ♩ c. 98

22

S

Narration

Vc.

Pno.

The National Monument on Calton Hill was built to commemorate those killed in the Napoleonic Wars.

Designed in imitation of the Parthenon, it was begun in 1826 and abandoned unfinished when the money ran out.

28

S

Vc.

Pno.

Sometimes, however, ghosts have other plans. . .

freely

p *mf* *p*

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34

S

Vc.

Pno.

f

p

mf

mf

39

S

Toil-ing a - long Prin-ces street, then up Wa -

Vc.

Pno.

mf

mf

43

S

ter-loo Place,

Vc.

Pno.

mf

mf

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48

S

Vc.

Pno.

53

S

Vc.

Pno.

58

S

Vc.

Pno.

Dor - ic pil - lar on each should - er.

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61 *p* *p*

S Vict - o - ri - ous im - mor - tal—

Vc.

Pno. *p*

66 *mf*

S us and our clas - sic - al - ly — pro - por - tioned back - break - ing loads.

Vc. *mf*

Pno. *mp*

70

S

Vc.

Pno. *mf*

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73

S

Vc.

Pno.

75

S

Vc.

Pno.

p

p

mf

mp

We left our dead on the battle - field—

80

S

Vc.

Pno.

mf

mf

they are al - ways al - lowed for in ad - vance,

The Completed Parthenon on Calton Hill

84

S *mf*
cal-cu - la - ted like fu - tures,

Vc. *f*

Pno. *mf*

87

S
hedge funds, al - go - rithms of ac - cep - ta - ble loss.

Vc. *mf*

Pno. *mp*

91

S

Vc. *f*

Pno. *f*

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95

S *mf*
E - v'ry-one's con-science is

Vc. *mf*

Pno. *mp* *mf*

100

S
clear, and when the sum_ don't work out no one's to

Vc.

Pno.

104

S
blame but his - to - ry.

Vc. *p* *mf*

Pno. *mf*

The Completed Parthenon on Calton Hill

109 *mf* *p* *mf*

S Two cent - ures on, we've slowed to a stand - still al - most — no - thing more than a

Vc. *p* *mf*

Pno. *p* *mf*

113 *p* *mf* *p*

S trick of the light, our ex - haus - tion

Vc. *p* *mf*

Pno. *p*

116 *p* *mf*

S the wind sigh - ing high a - bove the cit - y.

Vc.

Pno. *mp*

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119 *mf*

S
The com - plet - ed Par - the-non is all that

Vc.

Pno. *mf*

123

S
mat - ters. We'll get there. One

Vc.

Pno. *p*

128

S
day we'll slot the miss - ing pil - lars

Vc.

Pno. *mf* *mp*

The Completed Parthenon on Calton Hill

131

S

in, ce-ment them stick on a roof, a frieze. _____

Vc.

mp *mp* *freely*

Pno.

135

S

Vc.

Pno.

140

S

Vc.

mf

Pno.

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144 *p* *mf*

S
Un - til then we onl - y keep going.

Vc.

Pno. *p* *f*

148 *mf*

S
Be-low us, the spread - out streets and shopp - ing malls surge e -

Vc. *mf*

Pno. *mf*

152

S
le - ctric, what's hu-man soon de - liv - ers up its soul.

Vc. *f* *p*

Pno. *mp*

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156

S

Vc.

Pno.

p *mf* *mp* *p*

161

S

Vc.

Pno.

mf

Who - e - ver wand - ers here, take care. Who-

166

S

Vc.

Pno.

mp *meno*

e - ver wand - ers here, take care.

The Completed Parthenon on Calton Hill

170 *mf*

S
These un - fi - nished stones mark un - fi - nished

Vc.
mf

Pno.
mf

173

S
wars— as all wars are.

Vc.
mf freely *mf*

Pno.
mf

177

S

Vc.
p *mf*

Pno.