

Ken Davies
Quietudes
Sacred Music for Solo Organ



KD 306 (No. 1 - 6)

kenvad music

www.kendavies.net

Review in *The American Organist*

Quietudes: Sacred Music for Organ:

This cycle of soft, slow pieces for solo organ, each about four minutes in duration, comes to us from Ken Davies, a composer whose credits include the commissioned work, "God, The Artist of Creation" (SATB and organ) for the 1998 AGO National Convention. Each piece is prefaced by a scriptural quotation, and while each is slightly more difficult than the one before, the technical demands are moderate. The harmonic language recalls Hindemith with its shifting modes, and the Impressionists with the emphasis on quartal sonorities. Mr. Davies often employs the practice of building up chords from a low tone and adding higher ones, and then releasing tones while sustaining others, which sounds to good effect on the organ. While the harmonies are rife with added notes and seventh chords, the language is never harshly dissonant. The work shows a strong sense of melodic contour, pacing, and contrast despite the lack of quick motion or of dynamics above mezzo-piano. Registrations are given, but the composer makes it clear that these are suggestions and not demands. The composition is playable on any organ of two manuals or more with typical resources in terms of 8' flues. My personal favorite is the second of the group, with its far-ranging, expressive, rhapsodic, and sparsely accompanied quartally based melody in the outer sections of an arch form. In general, a worthy addition to the recital repertoire, as well as for practical use as church music.

-- Christopher M. Wicks, CAGO, The American Organist, February 2006, page 90

QUIETUDES for solo organ

Program Notes

These Quietudes, inspired by Scripture verses, are intended for performance as soft music (e.g. prelude, offertory) for worship services as well as for concert. The modern church organ has a wealth of tonal colors which can be mixed and contrasted. Such timbral contrasts are a significant part of these pieces. The registrations given may serve the organist as a point of departure for his/her own exploration of timbres as the individual instrument may allow.

Quietude No. 1 (2002) Duration 3:05

The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear the sound of it, but cannot tell where it comes from and where it goes. [John 3:8]

Quietude No. 2 (2002) Duration 3:41

My sheep hear My voice and I know them, and they follow Me. [John 10:27]

Quietude No. 3 (2002) Duration 4:07

He who dwells in the secret place of the Most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty. [Psalm 91:1]

Quietude No. 4 (2002) Duration 2:43

I am the living bread which came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever. [John 6:51]

Quietude No. 5 (2016) Duration c. 4:05

And this is my prayer: that your love many abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight. [Philippians 1:9]

Quietude No. 6 (2016) Duration c. 4:50

And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. [Philippians 4:7]

About the Composer

Ken Davies' (www.kendavies.net) acoustic and electronic works have appeared at numerous new music festivals such as the Society of Composers, Electroacoustic Barn Dance, Southeastern Composers League (he is a past president), New Music on the Bayou, ClarinetFest, and London New Wind Festival (UK). Since 2002, he resides in coastal south Mississippi. Awards include the Mississippi Arts Commission's Performing Arts Fellowship for Composition (twice) and the Mississippi Music Teachers' Association's Commissioned Composer Of The Year. His music studies were at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, Yale, MTSU at Murfreesboro (MA trombone), and the University of Colorado at Boulder (MM composition).

Quietude No. 1

Duration 3:05

The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear the sound of it,
but cannot tell where it comes from and where it goes. [John 3:8]

swell: soft flues 8'
swell to pedal 8'

Easy flow ♩=88

KEN DAVIES

Organ

mp

6

mp

12

mp

19

mp

Copyright © 2002 by Kenneth W. Davies. All rights reserved
Published by Kenvad Music (ASCAP) - www.kendavies.net

incomplete

Duration 3:41

Quietude No. 2

"My sheep hear My voice and I know them,
and they follow Me." [John 10:27]

KEN DAVIES

Organ

mp

Sw: 8' Vox Angelica 8' Flute Celeste
Gt: 8' Clarabella 8' Gamba

Ped: 16' Diapason 16' Fagotto

Slowly $\text{♩} = 66$

5

10

LH

RH

14

RH

LH

Quietude No. 3

He who dwells in the secret place of the Most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty. [Psalm 91:1]

Duration 4:07

Gamba, Gemshorn, soft flues 8'
Andante ♩ = 72

KEN DAVIES

Organ

mp

6

12

18

Copyright © 2002 by Kenneth W. Davies. All rights reserved
Published by Kenvad Music (ASCAP) - www.kendavies.net

incomplete

Quietude No. 4

-1

Duration 2:43

"I am the living bread which came down from heaven.
If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever:" [John 6:51]

KEN DAVIES

Largo $\text{♩} = 60$
gt. gemshorn 8' stopped flute 8'

Organ *mp*

Ped: soft diapason 8'

6

10 sw. Viole Celeste 8'

12 gt. Gedackt 8'

The musical score is written for Organ and Pedal in 4/4 time. It begins with a tempo marking of Largo and a metronome marking of 60. The Organ part is marked *mp* and features a registration of 'gt. gemshorn 8' stopped flute 8''. The Pedal part is marked *p* and features a registration of 'soft diapason 8''. The score is divided into four systems, with measures 6, 10, and 12 marked at the beginning of each system. The Organ part consists of a series of chords and melodic lines, while the Pedal part provides a harmonic foundation with sustained chords and moving lines. The score concludes with a final chord in the Organ part.

Quietude No. 5

Duration c. 4:05

And this is my prayer: that your love many abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight. [Philippians 1:9]

Swell: soft flues 8'
Swell to Pedal 8'

Adagio ♩ = 66

KEN DAVIES

Organ

p

p

5

9

rit. *a tempo*

14

rit. *a tempo*

rit. *a tempo*

Quietude No. 6

Duration c. 4:50

And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. [Philippians 4:7]

Great: Gedackt 8' Gamba 8' Mixtures as desired

Adagio ♩ = 66

KEN DAVIES

Organ

p

p Ped: soft diapason 8"

KEYBOARD WORKS by KEN DAVIES

from **kenvad music**

www.kendavies.net / **kenvad**

ORGAN

Wedding Processional

Quietudes #1-6

ORGAN in ensemble

Concert piece - org, 2 tpts, hrn, rbn, tba

PIANO

Landscapes

Drive the Great Desert

South of Kanab

The Terrible Green River

Sapphire Kaleidoscope

Sapphire Kaleidoscope 1

Sapphire Kaleidoscope 2

Sapphire Kaleidoscope 3

Five Sculptures

K'Danza

Gazelle's Fantasy

Elegy for Little Fluff

If Debussy Wrote Jazz...

Semi-Tones

Reverie

A Forest Evening In Winter

PIANO in ensemble

Music for a New Home - pno, vln, vla, vc

Atlanta Variations - pno, ob, vln, vla, vc

Around 3 AM - pno, alto sax, cl, tpt