

SOLILOQUY for OBOE

NICOLA LEFANU (b.1947)

Soliloquy was composed in 1965, when I was eighteen. I thought of it as a soliloquy in the dramatic sense, like a character in a play 'thinking aloud'. The music unfolds in one continuous train of thought that encompasses many moods and gestures, with plenty of internal repetitions. This 'continual variation' is always returning to the initial ideas; all the music grows out of the opening intervals. The single oboe line implies a counterpoint of thoughts, like someone questioning themselves.

I wrote *Soliloquy* for the oboist Francis John Hunter, who like me was a first year student at Oxford.

NL