

Nightscape (2005)

This piece was originally written for a music competition in Germany. The brief was three episodes or movements connected to the life of a city for piano trio. I decided on one continuous movement with three episodes though there is a return to the opening at the end. I chose the night life of a city so the first part is tranquil, twilight, people going home leaving the city centre quieter; then it begins to build as the first customers arrive in bars and restaurants then changing into clubs and night spots, late night bars, discos. Underneath it all there is a sense of menace, no big city is free of danger, streets you shouldn't go down areas where strangers may not be welcome and of course the darker side of every life, deals on street corners, the buying and selling of anything whether legal or not. Finally as dawn approaches the sense of tranquility returns. This is probably the quietest any city gets. I didn't expect to win the competition but the discipline was good, having to finish the piece and present it by a certain date. My expectations were not disappointed but I'm happy with the work and its title Nightscape.