

PROGRAMME NOTE

Afference is a physiological term describing how the brain receives signals from the body: how blood moves through vessels towards organs, and how nerve fibres convey sensory experiences to the central nervous system. Whilst composing *Afference* I have been concerned with how and where we might become conscious of sensory information – things we touch, see, hear – and how this might sound.

The work lasts approximately 23 minutes and is cast in two equal length movements.

Emily Howard, 2014

Score in C

Duration: c. 23'

*Commissioned by the Nicholas Buss Charitable Trust and The RVW Trust
for The Elias String Quartet*

Dedicated to Elisabeth and Bob Buss

*A recording of Afference, given by The Elias String Quartet, is available on
NMC debut disc Magazine (NMC D219), NMC Recordings*

PERFORMANCE NOTES

Vibrato

Vibrato is graded throughout the work in the following way:

- s.v. (*senza vibrato*): play without vibrato
- vib.: play with a small amount of vibrato
- m.v. (*molto vibrato*): play with a lot of vibrato
- w.v. (*wide vibrato*): play with a wide exaggerated vibrato
- s.w.v. (*very wide vibrato*): play with an even wider, more exaggerated vibrato

Bow Position

The following abbreviations are used in the score:

- m.a.t.: *molto ad tacit*
- s.t.: *ad tacit*
- nat.: 'natural' positioning of the bow
- s.p.: *ad post.*
- m.a.p.: *molto ad post.*

for Elizabeth and Debussy
String Quartet
'Afference'

I

Emily Howard

Temporarily mezzo (♩ = 120)

Violin I
Violin II
Viola
Cello/Double Bass

ff
f
f

19

ff mf ff mp

mf ff mp

ff mp

ff mp

21

ff mp ff mp ppp

ff mp ppp

ff mp ppp

mp pp

mp ppp

23

1) **Meno mosso (♩ = 65)**

p p p

pp ppp sempre Argento fino e copioso.

pp ppp

pp