

Arlene Sierra



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Arlene
SIERRA

Her music noted for its “highly flexible and distinctive style” (The Guardian), ranging from “exquisiteness and restrained power” to “combative and utterly compelling” (Gramophone), Arlene Sierra is widely regarded as one of today’s most original composers. Recent premieres include Nature Symphony “memorable for its creation of wonderful sounds from a large orchestra” (Bachtrack.com) commissioned by BBC Radio 3 and the BBC Philharmonic, Dalia from Cuatro Corridos, a monodrama for soprano Susan Narucki which toured the U.S. and Mexico

and was broadcast on Mexican television, and Urban Birds commissioned by the PRS New Music Biennale for a U.K. tour including the 2014 Commonwealth Games in Glasgow.

Over the past several years, Sierra has composed works for the International Contemporary Ensemble, BBC National Orchestra of Wales, the Bremen Philharmonic Society, the Carducci Quartet, Lontano, Psappha, the Albany Symphony, and the Seattle Symphony. Notable events include European performances of the work Butterflies Remember a Mountain, described as “precisely and joyously imagined” (The Times), by the Benedetti-Elschenbroich-Grynyuk Trio at the Concertgebouw and at the BBC Proms, a recording of Sierra’s piano concerto Art of War and other works by the BBC National Orchestra of Wales, and the New York Philharmonic commission for chamber orchestra Game of Attrition, described by Time Out as “at turns spry, savage, sly and seductive... so enrapturing.” Current projects include the scheduled world premiere of Bird Symphony, part of Sierra’s role as Composer-in-Association with the Utah Symphony.

Sierra’s solo and chamber works have appeared in numerous international programmes – from the Tanglewood Festival and Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall in the U.S., to Germany’s Alte Oper Frankfurt and the Louvre, Paris, from St Moritz in Switzerland to the Aldeburgh and Huddersfield Festivals in the U.K. She has worked with conductors including Andris Nelsons, Susanna Mälkki, Oliver Knussen, Jac Van Steen, and Ludovic Morlot; with ensembles including the Tokyo Philharmonic, London Sinfonietta, Boston Symphony, Alabama Symphony, Österreichisches Ensemble für neue Musik, Chroma, and New York City Opera VOX. Sierra has worked with soloists including Claire

Booth, Huw Watkins, Wendy Richman, Rowland Sutherland, Eric Lamb, Xenia Pestova, Marilyn Nonken, and Clare Hammond.

Her music is the subject of a series of portrait recordings by the prestigious Bridge Records label. Arlene Sierra, Vol. 1, recorded by the International Contemporary Ensemble, received rave reviews internationally and was featured by NPR Classical, which described its “remarkable brilliance of color, rhythmic dexterity and playfulness.” The orchestral disc *Game of Attrition: Arlene Sierra, Vol. 2* has been praised for “vividly scored, colorful works” by *The New York Times* and described by *The Guardian* as “remarkably sure-footed... quirky and individual” and “startlingly fresh and assured.” *Gramophone Magazine* has described Sierra’s latest release *Butterflies Remember a Mountain - Arlene Sierra, Vol. 3* as “a wonderful chamber music issue that enthralls from first bar to last.” Other labels representing Sierra’s work include NMC, New Focus Recordings, and Coviello Classics.

Declared “a name to watch” by *BBC Music Magazine*, Arlene Sierra first came to international attention when she was awarded the Takemitsu Prize in 2001. Further awards have included the Charles Ives Fellowship from the American Academy of Arts and Letters, Classical Recording Foundation Composer of the Year, a PRS Foundation Composers Fund award, and fellowships including Aspen, Aldeburgh Britten-Pears, the MacDowell Colony, and a Leverhulme Research Fellowship. She has had the honour of Composer Portrait concerts at the Crush Room, Royal Opera House, London, the Yellow Barn Chamber Music Festival, Vermont, Composers Now New York, and Columbia University’s Miller Theatre. Sierra’s orchestral showpiece *Moler* was nominated for a Latin GRAMMY for Best Contemporary Classical Composition.

Born in Miami to a family of New Yorkers, Arlene Sierra holds degrees from Oberlin College-Conservatory, Yale School of Music, and the University of Michigan. Her principal teachers were Martin Bresnick, Michael Daugherty and Jacob Druckman; she worked with Betsy Jolas and Dominique Troncin at Fontainebleau, and Paul-Heinz Dittrich in Berlin. At Tanglewood, Aldeburgh, and Dartington she studied with Louis Andriessen, Magnus Lindberg, Colin Matthews, and Judith Weir. Arlene Sierra currently serves as Professor of Music Composition at Cardiff University School of Music.

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The image displays a page of a musical score, numbered 26 in the top left corner. The score is arranged in a multi-system format, with each system containing multiple staves. The instruments and voices are organized as follows:

- System 1:** Flute, Oboe, Clarinet, Bassoon, Trumpet, Trombone, and Percussion.
- System 2:** Violin I, Violin II, Viola, and Cello.
- System 3:** Double Bass, Piano, and Harp.
- System 4:** Soprano, Alto, Tenor, and Bass vocal parts.
- System 5:** Chorus parts, including Soprano, Alto, Tenor, and Bass.
- System 6:** Additional vocal parts, including Soprano, Alto, Tenor, and Bass.
- System 7:** Additional vocal parts, including Soprano, Alto, Tenor, and Bass.
- System 8:** Additional vocal parts, including Soprano, Alto, Tenor, and Bass.
- System 9:** Additional vocal parts, including Soprano, Alto, Tenor, and Bass.
- System 10:** Additional vocal parts, including Soprano, Alto, Tenor, and Bass.
- System 11:** Additional vocal parts, including Soprano, Alto, Tenor, and Bass.
- System 12:** Additional vocal parts, including Soprano, Alto, Tenor, and Bass.
- System 13:** Additional vocal parts, including Soprano, Alto, Tenor, and Bass.
- System 14:** Additional vocal parts, including Soprano, Alto, Tenor, and Bass.
- System 15:** Additional vocal parts, including Soprano, Alto, Tenor, and Bass.
- System 16:** Additional vocal parts, including Soprano, Alto, Tenor, and Bass.
- System 17:** Additional vocal parts, including Soprano, Alto, Tenor, and Bass.
- System 18:** Additional vocal parts, including Soprano, Alto, Tenor, and Bass.
- System 19:** Additional vocal parts, including Soprano, Alto, Tenor, and Bass.
- System 20:** Additional vocal parts, including Soprano, Alto, Tenor, and Bass.

The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, and dynamic markings. A rehearsal mark 'M' is present at the beginning of the first system and again at the beginning of the 17th system. The vocal parts feature lyrics in German, including the words 'Halleluja' and 'Halleluja, Halleluja'.

CATALOGUE OF WORKS

Scores and digital media are provided on hire by Cecilian Music • Scores on sale are available via our website. For our works without sale or for hire indications, please contact Cecilian Music.

ORCHESTRA

Aquae (2001) 17'

I. Lacrimae,

II. Aquilo

(3. 3. 3. 3. / 4. 3. 3. 1/

3 Perc. Timp/ Hp. Pno=Cel./ Strings)

Study score for sale

Material on hire

Aquilo (2001) – 10'

(3. 3. 3. 3. / 4. 3. 3. 1/

3 Perc. Timp/ Hp. Pno=Cel./ Strings)

Study score for sale

Material on hire

Ballistae (2000) – 11'

(1.1.2.0 / 1.0.0.0 /

2 Perc. Hp. Pno. / Strings)

Study score for sale

Material on hire

Game of Attrition (2009) – 12'

(2.1.1.1 / 1.1.1.0 /

2 Perc. Hp. Pno. / Strings)

Study score for sale

Material on hire

Mantegna Diptych (2000) – 10'

I. Visage,

II. Painter's Process

(3. 3. 3. 3. / 4. 3. 3. 1/

3 Perc. Timp/ Hp. Pno=Cel./ Strings)

Study score for sale

Material on hire

Moler (2012) – 9'
(3. 3. 3. 3. / 4. 3. 3. 1/
3 Perc. Timp/ Hp. Pno./ Strings)

Study score for sale
Material on hire

Nature Symphony (2017) – 21'
(3. 3. 3. 3. / 4. 3. 3. 1/
3 Perc. Timp/ Hp. Pno./ Strings)

Study score for sale
Material on hire

SOLOIST AND ORCHESTRA

Piano Concerto: Art of War (2010) – 21'
I. Captive Nation,
II. Strategic Siege
(3. 3. 3. 3. / 4. 3. 3. 1/
3 Perc. Timp/ Hp. Cel/ Strings)

Study score for sale
Material on hire

**Trombone Concerto:
Dedication and Dance**
(1994, revised 2003) – 14'
(3. 3. 3. 3. / 4. 3. 3. 1/
3 Perc. Timp/ Hp. Pno=Cel./ Strings)

Study score for sale
Material on hire

WIND ENSEMBLE

**Trombone Concerto:
Dedication and Dance**
(1994, revised 2003) – 14'
(3. 3. 3. 3. / 4. 3. 3. 1/
3 Perc. Timp/ Hp. Pno=Cel./ Strings)

Study score and Performing set for sale

LARGE ENSEMBLE

Ballistae for Thirteen Players (2000) – 11'
(Fl., Ob=Eng. Hn., 2 Cl. (2=Bs. Cl.), Hn.,
2 Perc., Pno., 2 Vln., Vla., Vcl., Db.)

Study score for sale
Material on hire

Cicada Shell for Septet (2006) – 15'
I. Marziale
II. Misterioso, espressivo
(Fl.=Picc., Cl.=Bs.Cl., Hn.,
I Perc., Pno., Vln., Vcl.)

Study score for sale
Material on hire

Colmena for Fourteen Players (2008) – 8'
(2 Fl., Ob=Eng.Hn., Cl., Hn.,
2 Perc., Hp., Pno., 2 Vln., Vla., Vcl., Db.)

Study score for sale
Material on hire

Four Choreographic Studies for Ten Players (2001) – 10'
I. Slingshot,
II. Unravelling,
III. Tango,
IV. Risk
(Fl., Cl., Tpt., I Perc., Pno., 2 Vln., Vla., Vcl., Db.)

Study score for sale
Material on hire

Tiffany Windows for Twelve Players (2002) – 14'
I. Light Through Dark Glass
II. Favriile (Hand Made)
III. Cloud Circle
(Fl.=Picc., Ob., Cl., Bsn., Hn.,
I Perc., Hp., 2 Vln., Vla., Vcl., Db.)

Study score for sale
Material on hire

SOLOIST AND LARGE ENSEMBLE

Neruda Settings for Soprano and Chamber Ensemble (2002-5) – 22'

- I. Oda a la lagartija,
- II. Oda a la alcachofa,
- III. Oda al plato,
- IV. Oda a la mesa
(Fl., Cl., Hn., I Perc., Hp.,
Pno=Cel., Vln., Vla., Vcl., Db.)

Study score for sale
Material on hire

WORKS FOR 2 TO 6 PLAYERS

Avian Mirrors for Violin and Cello (2013) – 10'

- I. Greeting,
- II. Reflection,
- III. Display

Study score for sale
Performing set for sale

Butterflies Remember a Mountain

Piano Trio (2013) – 12'

- I. Butterflies,
- II. Remember
- III. A Mountain

Study score for sale
Performing set for sale

A Conflict of Opposites

for Violin and Piano (2006) – 11'

- I. Feroce,
- II. Leggero

Study score for sale
Performing set for sale

A Conflict of Opposites

for Clarinet and Piano (2005) – 11'

- I. Feroce,
- II. Leggero

Study score for sale
Performing set for sale

Counting-Out Rhyme for Cello and Piano (2002) - 5'
Study score for sale
Performing set for sale

Duo for Violoncelli (1993) - 5'

Study score for sale
Performing set for sale

Four Love Songs for Viola and Piano (1993) - 8'

I. Rage
II. Caress
III. Game
IV. Adieu

Study score for sale
Performing set for sale

Harrow-lines for Piano Quintet (1999) - 7'
(Pno., Vln., Vla., Vcl., Db.)

Study score for sale
Performing set for sale

Insects in Amber String Quartet (2010) - 14'

I. Gryllus Integer
II. Double Viols
III. Figwasps

Study score for sale
Performing set for sale

Le Chai au Quai
(for Elliott Carter's 100th Birthday) (2008) - 3'
for Bass Clarinet and Cello

Study score for sale
Performing set for sale

Meditation on Violence for Five Players (2012) - 12'

*Concert Version - see FILM WORKS AND
DIGITAL MEDIA for film version information.
(Fl. = Alto Fl., Cl., Vln, Vcl, Pno.)

Study score for sale
Performing set for sale

Petite Grue (for Henri Dutilleux) (2008) - 2'
(Ob., Vibe., Hpschd., Db.)

Study score for sale
Performing set for sale

of Risk and Memory for Two Pianos (1997) - 11'
Score for sale

Ritual in Transfigured Time for Five Players (2016) - 14'
*Concert Version - see FILM WORKS AND
DIGITAL MEDIA for film version information.
(Bb Cl.=Eb Cl., 2 Vlns, Vla, Vcl)

Study score for sale
Performing set for sale

Surrounded Ground for Sextet (2008) - 13'
I. Preamble
II. Feigned Retreat
III. Egress
(Cl., 2 Vln., Vla., Vcl., Pno.)

Study score for sale
Performing set for sale

Truel (complete) for Clarinet Trio (2007) - 21'
I. Agitato
II. Lontano ma espressivo
III. Energico et intenso

Study score for sale
Performing set for sale

Truel (complete) for Piano Trio (2004) - 21'
I. Agitato,
II. Lontano ma espressivo,
III. Energico et intenso

Study score for sale
Performing set for sale

Truel I for Clarinet Trio (2003) - 7'

Study score for sale
Performing set for sale

Truel I for Piano Trio (2002) - 7'

Study score for sale
Performing set for sale

Zwei Hühner for Oboe and Trombone (2000) - 3'

Study score for sale
Performing set for sale

SOLO WORKS

Birds and Insects,

Book 1 for Solo Piano (2007) – 15'

1. Sarus Crane,
2. Cornish Bantam,
3. Cicada Sketch,
4. Titmouse,
5. Scarab

Score for sale

Birds and Insects,

Book 2 for Solo Piano with optional – 24'
recorded birdsong* (2018)

1. Painted Bunting,
2. Hermit Thrush,
3. Black and White Warbler,
4. Thermometer Cricket
5. Bobolink

Score for sale

Art of Lightness for Flute (2006) - 7'

Score for sale

Cricket-Viol for Solo Viola / Voice (2010) – 4'

Score for sale

Two Etudes after Mantegna for Cello (1998) – 10'

I. Visage

II. Painter's Process

Score for sale

SOLO VOICE & UP TO 6 PLAYERS

Hand mit Ringen

for Soprano and Three Players (2002) – 7'

(Vln., Cimbalom, Pno.)

Score for voice and piano (in preparation)

Study score for sale

Performing set for sale

Hearing Things

for Soprano and Piano (2008) – 7'

I. Look at Six Eggs

II. Hearing Things

Score for sale

Streets and Rivers

for Baritone and Piano (2007) – 14'

I. Upper Broadway

II. Sudden Collapses in Public Places

III. Diving Girl

IV. Hungry Thames

Score for sale

Streets and Rivers

for Soprano and Harp (2017) – 8'

I. Upper Broadway

II. Sudden Collapses in Public Places

Score for sale

Three Descriptions

for Soprano and Piano (1997) – 7'

I. First Floor

II. Evening

III. Greyhound

Score for sale

Two Neruda Odes for Soprano, Cello and Piano (2004) – 11'
I. Oda al plato, II. Oda a la mesa

Study score for sale
Performing set for sale

ELECTROACOUSTIC WORKS

***Birds and Insects**, Book 2
for Solo Piano with optional recorded birdsong
(in progress, 2015–)
1. Painted Bunting,
2. Hermit Thrush,
3. Black and White Warbler,
4. Thermometer Cricket,
5. Bobolink

Urban Birds for Two Pianos and Disklavier (2014) – 14'
(for three pianists performing with small percussion and electronics)
Study score for sale
Performing set for sale

WORKS WITH FILM

Meditation on Violence for Five Players (2012) – 12'
Music to accompany the Maya Deren film
(Fl. = Alto Fl., Cl., Vln, Vcl, Pno.)

Study score for sale
Performing set for sale

Ritual in Transfigured Time for Five Players (2016) – 14'
Music to accompany the Maya Deren film
(Bb Cl.=Eb Cl., 2 Vlns, Vla, Vcl)

Study score for sale;
Performing set for sale

Studies in Choreography for Flute, Viola, and Harp (2019) - 9'
Music to accompany two short Maya Deren films

Study score for sale
Performing set for sale

FILM WORKS & DIGITAL MEDIA

For works with film, the publisher can provide a download link on request.

For Book 2 of Birds and Insects and Urban Birds
sound files and digital media can be provided on request.

DANCE

Four Choreographic Studies for Ten Players (2001) – 10'

I. Slingshot,

II. Unravelling,

III. Tango,

IV. Risk

(Fl., Cl., Tpt., 1 Perc., Pno., 2 Vln., Vla., Vcl., Db.)

Study score for sale

Score and Parts for hire

OPERA AND MUSIC THEATRE

Faustine (in progress, 2011–) - ca. 75'

Opera in one act for Six Voices and Orchestra

(3. 3. 3. 3. / 4. 2. 2. 1/ 2 Perc. Timp/ Hp. Pno./ Strings)

Contact publisher for further information

Cuatro Corridos: Dalia (2013) – 13'

Chamber Opera Scena for Soprano and Three Players

(Guitar / 1 Perc./ Pno.)

Study score for sale

Score and Parts for hire

CHORUS

Alike Dissolving for SATB, Children's Choir
and String Orchestra (2001) – 14'

I. Weathers,

II. The Lizard,

III. Waiting Both,

IV. Going and Staying

Orchestral Score and Parts for hire

Alike Dissolving for Unaccompanied SATB (2001) – 14'
I. Weathers, II. The Lizard, III. Waiting Both, IV. Going and Staying
Score for sale

Alleluya (Bitter-Sweet)
for Unaccompanied SATB or
four men's voices (2000) – 3'

Score for sale

DISCOGRAPHY

Arlene Sierra, Vol. 1
BRIDGE9343

Game of Attrition:
Arlene Sierra, Vol. 2
BRIDGE9414

Urban Birds
NMC
DL201401

Lounge Lizards
of Risk and Memory
Quattro Mani:
Steven Beck and Susan Grace, pianos
BRIDGE9486

Approaching Dutilleux
Petite Grue
The Riot Ensemble
COV91503

Cuatro Corridos: a chamber opera
Dalia
Susan Narucki, Soprano
BRIDGE9473

One Minute Wonders
Titmouse from Birds and Insects, Book 1
Clive Williamson, piano
CACD0612



SELECTED WRITINGS

Katy Wright: 'Premieres: November's new music'
Classical Music Magazine,
Issue 1038
November 2017

Xenia Pestova: 'Conversation with Arlene Sierra'
I Care If You Listen Magazine
June/July 2012

Robert Schulslaper: 'Composer Arlene Sierra:
Process, Strategy, Evolution'
Fanfare Magazine
Nov/Dec 2011



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