# Table of Contents

Preface and Acknowledgments  
9

Introduction  
Biographical Sketch  
International Recognition  
Frank Martin’s Musical Language  
Harmonically Embedded Twelve-tone Rows  
Literary Texts and Expressions of Faith  
Meditations on Death in the Life of Frank Martin  
11  
13  
15  
18  
23  
27

**Le Vin herbé**  
A Commission with Room for a Dream  
Scoring and Coloring  
Recurring Incipits  
Dodecaphonic Signifiers of the Spiritual Themes  
Frames and Brackets  
29  
33  
36  
39  
45

**Der Cornet**  
A Song Cycle with an Epic Tale  
Rilke’s Lay  
Frame, Thread, and Anchor in Martin’s Musical Interpretation  
Motifs and Symbolic Gestures  
Rhythms, Tone Painting, and Orchestral Coloring  
51  
52  
56  
61  
66

**Sechs Monologe aus ‘Jedermann’**  
Composing Songs in Times of Omnipresent Death  
From the Earliest Forerunners to Hofmannsthall’s Jedermann  
The Six “Monologues” in Martin’s Song Cycle  
No. 1 — “Ist alls zu End das Freudenmahl!”  
No. 2 — “Ach Gott, wie graust mir vor dem Tod”  
No. 3 — “Ist als wenn eins gerufen hätt”  
No. 4 — “So wollt ich ganz zernichtet sein”  
No. 5 — “Ja! Ich glaub: solches hat Er vollbracht”  
No. 6 — “O ewiger Gott! O göttliches Gesicht!”  
The Song Cycle as a Musical Psychogram  
71  
72  
75  
77  
80  
83  
85  
88  
90  
92
In terra pax
The Still Moment between War and Peace 93
Frames and Patterns in Martin’s Compilation of Texts 98
Symmetries Underscored by Traditional Musical Structures 100
Bifurcating Canons and Gradual Redemption 104
Landscapes of Communal Distress, Icons of Visionary Hope 109
Symbolic Timbres and Gestures 112

Golgotha
Rembrandt’s Etching and Bach’s Passions 115
Narration, Dialogue, and Reflection 118
Vocal Timbres of Light and Shadow 121
External Allusions and Internal Quotations 122
Variants of the Cross Motif 129
Three Twelve-tone Rows 131
A Portrayal of Human Anguish and Strength 136
Trust, in the Mid-20th Century 140

Poèmes de la mort
Unlikely Poetry, Unlikely Instruments 143
The Dramatic Life and Poetry of François Villon 144
“Mort saisit sans exception” 146
“Mort, j’appelle de ta rigueur” 150
“Ballade des Pendus” 153
Three Steps toward the Inevitable 159

Requiem
A Temple Dedicated to the Adoration 161
Liberation from Disquiet and Darkness 167
Salvation from Evil and Anguish 169
Joining the Heavenly Choir 173
Facing the Ultimate Judge 177
An Overwhelming Expression of Trust 186

Polyptyque
A Dual Source of Inspiration 187
Public Euphoria 191
Taking Leave of Distressed Friends 195
The Requisite Culprit 197
Doubly Abandoned 200
The Many Faces of Envy, Cruelty, and Opportunism 203
Reaching Perfection 208
The Duccio Passion 212
# Table of Contents

"Et la vie l'emporta"
- Final Meditations on Health and Suffering 213
- Imploration – Supplication 214
- Combat – Battle 218
- Offrande – Offering 221
- Frank Martin’s Spiritual Legacy 225

Epilogue: *Ein Totentanz zu Basel, im Jahre 1943* 227

Conclusion 231

“The Need for Contemporary Music.” An Essay by Frank Martin 233

*Le Vin herbé* — text and translation 237
*Der Cornet* — text and translation 253
*In terra pax* — text and translation 262
*Golgotha* — text and translation 269

Bibliography 283

List of Illustrations
- Music examples 287
- Tables 289
- Figures 289
- Poems 290

Catalogue of Frank Martin’s Compositions
- Dramatic works 291
- Incidental music 291
- Oratorios and cantatas 292
- Works for unaccompanied voices 293
- Works for a vocal soloist with orchestra 293
- Works for a vocal soloist with instrumental ensemble or piano 293
- Symphonic works 294
- Orchestral works with instrumental soloists 294
- Chamber music 295
- Works for a single instrument 296

Index 297

About the Author 300