Philip Czaplowski

Ocean Greyness

solo clarinet (2003)

www.czaplowski.com
Philip Czaplowski was born in London in 1958, and has lived in Melbourne, Australia since 1969. In addition to his work as composer and pianist, he is currently completing a PhD in music composition at Monash University, where he is also a sessional lecturer in music theory.

Performers of Philip’s music include the Melbourne SO, Christchurch SO, Australia Pro Arte, The Chamber Strings of Melbourne, Geelong Chamber Orchestra, Australian Chamber Soloists, Australia Felix, Kazimierz Dawidek, Harry Sparnaay, James Strauss, Jeffrey Crellin, Prudence Davis, David Thomas, Debra Fox, David Nuttall, and Carl Rosman.

In addition to numerous Australian performances, Philip Czaplowski’s music has been performed in the USA, England, Austria, Holland, Germany, Argentina, Brazil, Ireland, and New Zealand, and his works have been broadcast by ABC Classical FM, 3MBS FM, and Radio Adelaide.
Ocean Greyness for solo clarinet was composed during May 2003, and first performed by Paul Todd, during a Melbourne Composers League concert at the Retro Café, Fitzroy on 1st June 2003.

The title refers to a 1953 painting by Jackson Pollock, currently exhibited at the Guggenheim Museum in New York.

Ocean Greyness, one of Pollock’s last great works, depicts several disembodied eyes hidden within the swirling colored fragments that materialize from the dense, scumbled gray ground. “When you are painting out of your unconscious,” he claimed, “figures are bound to emerge.” Manifest in this painting is a dynamic tension between representation and abstraction that, finally, constitutes the core of Pollock’s multileveled oeuvre.

Nancy Spector

Duration: Approximately 4 minutes

Performance Notes:

Accidentals apply throughout the bar, unless cancelled by another accidental. All trills are by the semitone.