Spring Symphony was composed in 1948–9. The first performance took place (by kind permission of Serge Koussevitzky) on 14 July 1949 at the Concertgebouw, Amsterdam as part of the Holland Festival, with Jo Vincent (soprano), Kathleen Ferrier (contralto) and Peter Pears (tenor), the Boys' Choir of the St Willibrorduskerk, Rotterdam, the Dutch Radio Chorus and the Concertgebouw Orchestra, conducted by Eduard van Beinum.

The first US performance took place on 13 August 1949 at the Berkshire Festival, Tanglewood, under the direction of Serge Koussevitzky.

Instrumentation

3 Flutes (3rd doubling Alto Flute and Piccolo)

2 Oboes

Cor Anglais

2 Clarinets in Bo

Bass Clarinet

2 Bassoons

Double Bassoon

4 Horns in F

3 Trumpets in C

3 Trombones

Tuba

Cow Horn

Timpani

*Percussion (4)

2 Harps

Strings

*xylophone, vibraphone, bells (C, A, Bh), block, castanets, tambourine, side drum, tenor drum, bass drum, cymbals, gong

Duration: 45 minutes

Performance materials available on hire. Vocal score and chorus score available on sale. The unauthorised copying of the whole or any part of this publication is illegal.

(Anon. 16th Century)

For Serge Koussevitzky and the Boston Symphony Orchestra

SPRING SYMPHONY

Introduction Shine out

BENJAMIN BRITTEN Op. 44



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PART II

Welcome Maids of Honour

Herrick



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