DINOS CONSTANTINIDES

ANTIGONE

Prologue and Parodos
LRC 109c



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Text: Sophocles

Duration: appr. 20 minutes

The composer began work on his three-act opera Antigone, based on the play by Sophocles, twenty years ago and completed it in 1989. It was premiered in 1993 by the Baton Rouge Opera. The opera is performed in three acts and follows the original story closely. The first act offers background information on the fight to the death between Antigone's two brothers over the kingship of Thebes and Antigone's plan to bury her brother Polyneices.

The burial of her brother has been forbidden by the new king, her uncle Creon. The second act focuses on Antigone's confrontation with Creon and the conflict between Creon and his son, Haimon. The final act centers on Creon's realization that he has wronged Antigone and the tragic consequences of his rash actions. This selection is the opening scene of the completed opera, Antigone.

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The music of Dinos Constantinides has been performed throughout the world. He is the recipient of many grants, commissions and awards, including first prize in the 1981 Brooklyn College International Chamber Opera Competition and the 1985 First Midwest Chamber Opera Conference. He also received the 1985 American New Music Consortium Distinguished Service Award, the 1989 Glen Award of l'Ensemble of New York, several Meet the Composer grants and numerous ASCAP Standard Awards. In the 1994 he was honored with a Distinguished Teacher White House Commission on Presidential Scholars.

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1. Instrumentation:

Flute

Oboe

Clarinet in Bb

Bassoon

Horn in F

Trumpet in C

Trombone

Percussion: timpani, temple blocks, wood block, snare drum, triangle, suspended cymbal,

cowbell, vibraphone, chimes (d and a)

Strings

2. Soloists:

Antigone (mezzo soprano)

Ismene (soprano)

Choragos (tenor)

Male chorus (14 singers)

3. Explanation of symbols

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\	Entry Cue
•	Holding of note
 : : -	Continuous repetition of the figure inside the repeat markings
he he	Accelerando
n	Nothing
Prolonged line	Interrupt the sound at will