

OUT OF THIS WORLD

CONDUCTOR DR ROBERT CHILDS
EUPHONIUM SOLOIST: DAVID CHILDS
CORY BAND

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|------|--|--------------------|-------|
| 1. | SPIRITI © <i>Mitropa Music</i> | Thomas Doss | 17.03 |
| 2-6. | UFO CONCERTO © <i>Amstel Music BV</i> | Johan de Meij | |
| | Euphonium Soloist David Childs | | |
| I | Andante – Con moto | 5.19 | |
| II | Giocososo – Vivo | 5.36 | |
| III | Andante cantabile | 3.46 | |
| IV | Vivace | 6.57 | |
| V | Alla Marcia – Vivace | 3.12 | |
| 7. | HELVETIA © <i>Prima Vista Musik</i> | Gareth Wood | 10.54 |
| 8. | BREATH OF SOULS © <i>PLC Music</i> | Paul Lovatt-Cooper | 16.07 |

Total playing time 69.15

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Introduction

'*Out of this World*' follows a recognised trail of substantial recordings by Cory Band and Musical Director Bob Childs including *Gaia Symphony*, *Triumphant Brass*, *Actaeon* and the *Brass Band Classic* series. This disc takes its inspiration from ethereal beauty and heavenly intervention. Paul Lovatt-Cooper's *Breath of Souls* parallels itself to Mother Nature's ability to triumph over adversity, while *Spiriti* conjures up the notion of great composers of the past looking down from heaven as today's composers refine their craft.

The title also alludes to the standard of music making by this fine Band over the past decade. Winning all there is to be won and remaining at the top of the World Rankings for the past five years.

The disc also features euphonium virtuoso David Childs in *UFO Concerto* (nothing to do with unusual apparent anomalies in the sky) and *Helvetia*, the Roman name given to Switzerland and written in memory of James Watson.

All the tracks on this disc are *World Première studio recordings* and, as the title suggests, the playing is simply..... *Out of this World!*



Band Personnel

Soprano Cornet	Steve Stewart Bert Van Thienen	Solo Trombone	Christopher Thomas
Principal Cornet	Tom Hutchinson	2nd Trombone	Gareth Robinson
Solo Cornet	Christopher Turner	Bass Trombone	Andrew Williams
Solo Cornet	Darren Thomas	Eb Bass	Simon Howell
Solo Cornet	Seamus Gallagher	Eb Bass	Kazuyuki Kouno
Solo Cornet	Nick Walkley	Eb Bass	Robert Graham-White
Repiano Cornet	Richard Davies	BBb Bass	Fraser Bish
2nd Cornet	Lisa Fitzgerald-Lombard	BBb Bass	Nick Wells
2nd Cornet	Phillip Harris	BBb Bass	John Prosser
2nd Cornet	Steph Wilkins	Percussion	Alun Horgan
3rd Cornet	Neil Blockley	Percussion	Steve Jones
3rd Cornet	Travis Griffith	Percussion	James Andrews
3rd Cornet	Andrew Jones	Percussion	Jeremy Taylor
Flugel Horn	Joanne Childs	Percussion	Simon Brittlebank
Solo Horn	Owen Farr	*Piano:	David Harrington
1st Horn	Ailsa Russell	*Harp:	Llywelyn Jones
2nd Horn	Emma Havard	*Euphonium:	Fran Wilson
2nd Horn	Lucy Griffith	*UFO Concerto only	
Solo Euphonium	David Childs		
2nd Euphonium	James McLeod		
Solo Baritone	Susan Thomas		
2nd Baritone	Stephen Kane		

Cory Band



Cory Band hails from the Rhondda Valley in South Wales. Formed in 1884 it was originally called Ton Temperance. In 1895, Sir Clifford Cory, chairman of Cory Brothers, heard the band and offered financial assistance, resulting in the change of name to Cory.

In 1923 Cory achieved the distinction of performing what is believed to have been the first radio broadcast by a brass band and in 1976 was chosen to represent Wales and the brass band movement on a tour of the USA as part of its centenary celebrations.

For a period between the late Nineties and 2007, the name changed to Just Rentals Cory Band and then Buy as You View Cory Band and the successes mounted. The culmination of these significant achievements came in 2000 following the appointment of Dr Robert Childs as MD when the band won the British Open and National Championships and made history by taking the British Open shield home to Wales for the first time in the contest's 148-year history. In 2008, 2009 and 2010 the band achieved a hat-trick of European Brass Band Champion titles and in September 2011 Cory won its fifth British Open title. Cory Band has developed outside of the contest field.

In 2001 together with the BBC National Orchestra of Wales the Band was appointed as resident ensemble to the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama. In the same year Dr John Pickard was appointed as Composer in Residence. Cory has an active commissioning policy and has performed works by many of Britain's leading composers such as: John McCabe, Judith Bingham, Elgar Howarth, Edward Gregson, Alun Hoddinott, Gareth Woods, David Bedford, Karl Jenkins and John Pickard. In 2002 the band was chosen to play for the Queen's Jubilee celebrations and has performed in many of the world's finest concert venues such as the Royal Albert Hall, Birmingham's Symphony Hall, Grieg Hall, Stravinsky Hall and Amsterdam Concertgebouw. Cory is recognised as one of the Principality's finest and most innovative music ensembles, its numerous CD recordings and live concert performances has received worldwide acclaim. In 2009 Cory celebrated its 125th Anniversary and the 'John Edwards Memorial Award' was bestowed upon Dr Robert Childs and Cory Band by the Welsh Music Guild for outstanding contribution to Welsh music. Previous winners of the award include Alun Hoddinott, Bryn Terfel, Brian Hughes, Bryan Davies, Margaret Price and Stuart Burrows. In December 2011 Cory was presented with the British Bandsmen/4Barsrest trophy and recognised as the No1 Brass Band in the World, a position it retains for the fifth consecutive year. Cory Band is proud to play exclusively on Besson instruments.

For further information visit www.coryband.com

Spiriti – Thomas Doss

A Bach chorale, BWV 327, stands at the centre of this work (Für deinen Thron tret' ich hiermit). Anton Bruckner was one of Johann Sebastian Bach's great admirers. His work is full of the spirit of that musical genius. For Thomas Doss, it was Bruckner's spirit that always seemed to be with him while working on *Spiriti*. Bruckner's spirit is captured in this composition by a quote from the chorale of his Fifth Symphony at the end of the piece.

The introduction, written in the style of a funeral march, already displays the first fragments of the chorale. Like splinters they are strewn throughout the first Allegro, combining and recombining in turbulent, powerful tutti passages. As the music becomes more rambunctious, the Bach-like fragments begin to swirl around each other, only to be scattered once more.

The middle-section is of a more pensive nature. The Religioso character gives the listener time to reflect. The music is meditative and the quarter-note (or crotchet) elements mimic a soul that is yearning and crying out.

The third part of the piece finally leads, by way of minimalist elements and the fragments mentioned earlier, to a magnificent presentation of the Bach chorale. As the church bells ring out, one can almost hear the great masters presiding at the organ.

UFO Concerto – Johan de Meij

UFO Concerto is not a traditional concerto in the classical sense as it consists of five movements that are thematically related to one another. The five movements are: I Andante – Con moto; II Giocoso – Vivo; III Andante cantabile; IV Vivace; V Alla Marcia – Vivace.

The opening chord may sound familiar to some listeners; the reason being that this chord and the first theme are based on the same five-note chord used in *Extreme Makeover* and *Planet Earth* in 2005: a major triad with an added 4th and a 7th. This chord has been obsessively present in the composer's head ever since he began composing. Both the chord and the main theme make appearances in various shapes and forms throughout the entire piece.

Jason Ham, solo euphonium player with the West Point Band (USA), initiated a consortium to commission Johan de Meij to write *UFO Concerto*. David Childs was part of the consortium and it was David, together with The Cory Band conducted by his father Robert Childs, who gave the world première of the work on 29 January, 2012 at the RNCM Festival of Brass in Manchester (UK). Jason Ham gave the première of the original Wind Band version on 15 February, 2012 in Baltimore (MD) with the Peabody Wind Ensemble conducted by Harlan Parker.

Helvetia – Gareth Wood

I first went to Switzerland in the early 1970s and regularly played at the Lucerne Festival with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra. It is a beautiful city, one of my favourite European cities. In writing *Helvetia* (the Roman name for Switzerland) I wanted to encapsulate the moods that remind me of this wonderful place. The work is in four distinct sections and is on the whole, self-explanatory.

It opens with an *Alpine Dawn and Sunrise*, the tubas and euphoniums substituting for the Swiss Alphorns. Next is the *Clock Shop at Midday*. A loud ticking, chiming and the sad sound of the cuckoo builds into the cacophony of the midday chimes. The third section is *A Walk To Wagner's House*. Just along the lake from the centre of town is Tribschen. This walk I have done many times and it is here that Wagner wrote Tristan. I have quoted the Dresden Amen (written by J.G. Naumann) which is much used in Parsifal. The final section is the *Cresta Run*, the most famous bobsleigh run in the world. As we take each corner, the feeling of speed is demonstrated as only a brass band can do!

The work is dedicated to Dr Robert Childs and the Cory Band and also to the memory of James Watson, a great cornet player, trumpeter and conductor. It was he who first got me writing for bands. I hope this piece is worthy.

Breath of Souls – Paul Lovatt-Cooper

Breath of Souls was commissioned by Weyland and Yvonne Roberts. It was composed especially for the 100th National Brass Band Championships of Great Britain at the Royal Albert Hall on 15 October 2011. Weyland worked in science for many years and has always been fascinated by nature's capacity to grow and rebuild regardless of its catastrophic power. Just like life itself *Breath of Souls* also grows musically with each bar - as you will hear many and various motifs and ideas grow and develop.

The piece is relatively straightforward with the performance directions on the score. There are no mutes needed for the performance and some of the tempo markings allow the conductor freedom to choose a suitable tempo in which to shape their performance.

In the cadenza section, the composer has given a choice of two cadenzas for each soloist. Both cadenzas have been equally matched in terms of difficulty. *Breath of Souls* is all about celebrating life and the enjoyment of making music. It is dedicated to the composer's close friend, Peter Graham, in recognition of the help, guidance and support he has given to Paul through the years.

David Childs



David Childs has emerged as one of the finest brass soloists in the world today. He has appeared as soloist with the BBC National Orchestra of Wales, Royal Philharmonic, BBC Concert Orchestra, Sinfonia Cymru and BBC Philharmonic; given concerto performances at the BBC Proms, Cheltenham Festival, Harrogate International Festival, Welsh Proms and New York Festival; performed solo recitals at the Wigmore Hall, Purcell Room, Bridgewater Hall and London's Royal Albert Hall; and regularly records as a solo artist for radio, television and commercial disc.

Inspired by his father Robert, David began playing the euphonium at an early age. Today he is in great demand as soloist and educator touring regularly throughout Europe, Australia, the Middle East, Japan, Hong Kong, and the USA.

He is currently Principal Euphonium with the world famous Cory Band and in 2010 made his debut in New York performing Karl Jenkins' *Concerto for Euphonium and Orchestra* at the prestigious Carnegie Hall.

As a Besson euphonium artist David is enjoying leading the way for a new generation of euphonium players worldwide, cementing a place for his instrument as a genuine solo voice within the classical world of music.



"a great ambassador for the euphonium, possessing an astonishing technique and an engaging stage presence." The Observer

"a charismatic advocate of the euphonium, a demonstration of versatility and extrovert musicality." The Guardian

For further information visit www.davechilds.com

Dr Robert Childs



Dr Robert Childs is a leading figure in the world of brass music. For over 30 years he has performed at the highest level giving solo performances in many of the world's most prestigious venues.

He has given masterclasses throughout Europe's finest conservatoires and is now recognised as a leading education specialist within his field. During 2000 Robert relinquished his enviable position as principal euphonium and bandmaster with Black Dyke Band in order to become Principal Conductor and Music Director of Cory Band, the Principality's premier brass band. Robert's success with Cory has been unprecedented and, having returned to his homeland of Wales, he is now Director of Brass Band Studies at the Royal Welsh College of Music, Musical Director of the National Youth Brass Band of Wales and Managing Director of Performing Arts Education. Robert is also an advisor to Besson Musical Instruments.

In 2002 Robert was awarded a Doctorate in Musical Arts from the University of Salford and is also an Associate of The Royal College of Music and Fellow of The London College of Music. Robert gained a Master's Degree with distinction from the University of Leeds, holds a Post Graduate Certificate in Education from the Open University and in 2007 his remarkable achievements were recognized by the Worshipful Company of Musicians when he was awarded the prestigious Iles Medal.

During Robert's tenure with Cory, the band has won the World Brass Band Championships, National Brass Band Championships of Great Britain, Brass in Concert Championship, British Open Championships (five times), European Brass Band Championships (three times) and the Welsh Regional Championships (eight times). Cory is currently ranked No. 1 in the official British Bandsman World of Brass Rankings for the fifth consecutive year.

In 2008 Robert was given 'Freedom of the City of London' and also received the prestigious John Edwards Memorial Award by the Welsh Music Guild for outstanding contribution to Welsh Music.

Thomas Doss

Thomas Doss was born 1966 in Linz, Austria, into a musical family (both parents were active orchestral musicians). At the age of seven he was given his first music lessons by his parents on tenor horn and trombone. Aged 11 he created his first compositions. He studied instrumental education for trombone. His undergraduate degree took place at the Brucknerkonservatorium Linz in music education, with an emphasis in trombone, composition, conducting, and piano. Subsequent studies took place in Salzburg, Vienna, Los Angeles, and Maastricht (Limburg).

Doss made his debut with the Wiener Kammerorchester in 1988 and has held residencies with various opera houses and festivals, working as both conductor and composer with, among others: the Brucknerorchester Linz, Philharmonisches Orchester Erfurt, Wiener Kammerinfoniker, Westfälisches Sinfonieorchester, Philharmonisches Orchester Budweis, Südböhmische Kammerphilharmonie, Wiener Kammerchor, Neue Philharmonie Frankfurt, and the Österreichisches Ensemble für neue Musik.

Doss is known for collaborating with artists from many different genres, such as Harri Stojka, Chris de Burgh, Thomas Gansch, John Williams, Steven Mead, Christian Maurer, as well as many others. His passion for wind and brass ensembles has taken his expertise and talent around the world. He has maintained a close relationship with the Mitropa/Dehaske publishing house since 2001 and has published numerous scores and CDs with them.

Teaching and coaching also play an increasingly important part of his work. Many of his students are award-recipients at international competitions. He also leads workshops and masterclasses at institutes across Europe, such as the Konservatorium Groningen (Netherlands), Lemmensinstituut (Belgium), Konservatorium Gent (Belgium), Universität Mainz (Germany), Musikuniversität Wien, and Anton Bruckneruniversität Linz (Austria).

Doss has been the coordinator for the Ensembleleitung des oberösterreichischen Landesmusikschulwerk since 2006. He is professor of conducting at the Konservatorium Wien Privatuniversität, the Konservatorium Monteverdi in Bozano (I) and consults institutes looking to improve and further their conducting programmes.

Johan de Meij

Johan studied trombone and conducting at the Royal Conservatory of Music in The Hague. He has earned international fame as a composer and arranger. His catalogue consists of original compositions, symphonic transcriptions and arrangements of film scores and musicals.

His Symphony No. 1, *The Lord of the Rings*, based on Tolkien's best-selling novels of the same name, was his first composition for wind orchestra. It received the prestigious Sudler Composition Award in 1989. In 2001, the orchestral version was premièred by the Rotterdam Philharmonic Orchestra. *The Lord of the Rings* has been recorded by renowned orchestras such as the London Symphony Orchestra, the North Netherlands Orchestra, the Nagoya Philharmonic Orchestra and the Amsterdam Wind Orchestra. His *Cello Concerto Casanova* was awarded First Prize at the International Composition Competition of Corciano [Italy] in 1999. A year later, De Meij won the Oman International Composition Prize with *The Red Tower*. His Symphony No. 3, *Planet Earth* was awarded second Prize in the 2006 edition of the Corciano Competition. He received the Dutch Wind Music Award 2007 for his important role in the worldwide advancement of the genre.

Besides composing and arranging, Johan de Meij is active as a performer, conductor, adjudicator and lecturer. As a trombone and euphonium player he has performed with the major orchestras and ensembles in The Netherlands, such as the Netherlands Wind Ensemble, the Dutch Brass Sextet, the Radio Chamber Orchestra, the Amsterdam Wind Orchestra and Orkest 'De Volharding'. He has conducted some of the leading wind orchestras of Europe, Asia, North and South America and has led master classes around the world. Johan de Meij spent a few days working with David Childs and the Cory Band in preparation for the World Première performance of *UFO Concerto*, which took place at the RNCM on 29 January 2012.

Gareth Wood

Gareth Wood was born in Cilfynydd, Wales in 1950. He entered the Royal Academy of Music in 1968, studying composition with Frederick Durrant and Paul Patterson and double bass with John Walton. In 1972 he joined the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, touring extensively and appearing at many of the world's major music festivals. He played for such conductors as Rudolf Kempe, Leopold Stokowski, Karl Böhm, Georg Solti, André Previn and Bernard Haitink, as well as performing in the 'Goodall Ring' with English National Opera. He was invited to be chairman of the Royal Philharmonic in 1991, a post he held for three years.

In 1975 his first work for brass band, the overture *Tombstone, Arizona*, was performed at the National Brass Band Festival at the Royal Albert Hall. Incidentally, this work was rescored for symphonic wind band and was performed in the O.K. Corral on the 100th Anniversary of the famous gunfight. Many works for brass band

followed and included test pieces for the 1977 Butlins Youth Band Contest, the 1980 New Zealand Brass Band Championships and the 1991 European Brass Band Championships. In 2005 he became Composer in Residence of the Buy as you View Cory Band.

His orchestral music is extensive. In 1981 his overture *Suffolk Punch*, a commission by the RPO, was premièred in Ipswich. The work was so well received, it was encored. He has written many works for the National Youth Orchestra of Wales, including three sinfoniettass and a tone poem *Above the dingle, stars*, which is dedicated to his great friend and champion, Owain Arwel Hughes. Other works include the *Cardiff Bay Overture* and *Toduri*, a work based on 15th century Korean court music that was performed in Seoul on the 600th anniversary of the city. A score of the work was sealed in a time capsule containing 600 items to be opened in 400 years!

Paul Lovatt-Cooper

Paul Lovatt-Cooper is an accomplished musician and one of the most sought-after young composing talents of his generation. Paul has enjoyed performances of his works including world premières in the UK and in countries worldwide, including Japan, Australia, Switzerland, Ireland, Austria, Holland, Belgium, New Zealand and the United States.

His pieces have been performed in some of the world's finest concert halls, including Birmingham's Symphony Hall, Austria's Brucknerhaus Concert Hall, Cardiff's St David's Hall, Melbourne's Hamer Hall, Norway's Grieg Hall, Holland's De Lawei Concert Hall, Manchester's Bridgewater Hall, London's Royal Albert Hall and the Sydney Opera House.

He is regularly in demand to compose for major concerts, events and festivals including the National Festival of Music for Youth, the English National Brass Band Championships, the Tartan Heart Festival, the National Youth Championships of Great Britain, the ISB 120 celebration concert, the 'Say Hello to Edward' appeal, the Swiss and Dutch National Championships, the World Brass Band Championships and the BBC Festival of Brass.

His test piece *Breath of Souls* was commissioned and composed especially for the Championship section of the 100th National Brass Band Championships of Great Britain at the Royal Albert Hall in October 2011.

He has composed for international soloists including David Childs, Brett Baker, Perry Hoogendijk, Les Neish and Owen Farr. He has also composed for many ensembles including the Black Dyke Band, the Brighouse and Rastrick Band, the Cory Band, the National Children's Brass Band of Great Britain, the National Youth Brass Band of Scotland and the International Staff Band of the Salvation Army. Paul's music has been featured on many television and radio stations worldwide, including the BBC and ITV and also BBC Radio 2 and Radio 3. He has released two best selling albums: *Walking with Heroes* and *Only for You*.