



Charlotte Bray: That Crazy Smile

Commissioned by the Oberon Piano Trio, *That Crazy Smile* is inspired by Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. It is a fantasy piece set within a dream-like world.

Set at night under the light of the moon, the piece moves through a dreamy section before reaching a gripping spellbound part, as if the fairies are deviously casting spells onto the lovers in their dreams. Tightly controlled, the music continuously varies small motifs and melodies, spinning around on itself. The foolishness and self-delusion of the lovers can be felt.

This work may be performed alongside *Those Secret Eyes*, which is loosely inspired by Shakespeare's *Macbeth*. The two plays are linked by themes of dream versus reality, and night versus day: problems arise in the day, and are relieved at night through dreaming.