STOLEN FROM ABOVE

FOR SAXOPHONE QUARTET

KATHRYN SALFELDER

Program Listing:

Stolen from Above (2015)

Kathryn Salfelder (b. 1987)

Program Note:

A tenth-century legend depicts plainchant melodies dictated directly to the Pope by the Holy Spirit. *Stolen from Above* juxtaposes this idea of "heavenly" music - here, a monophonic, Salve Regina chant - with newly-composed "earthly" materials. The work begins like a chorale prelude: one saxophone performs the chant as *cantus firmus* while the remaining three saxophones introduce a contrasting motto, dominated by large, ascending leaps. As the work progresses, the chant – which remains present throughout – is relegated to background material as a series of new ideas assume primary roles. A wayward fugue emerges as a sanctuary of structure amidst an otherwise gently-chaotic environment. But it too dissolves; the resolute, stark, opening octaves blossom into the final restatement of the Salve Regina melody.

Stolen from Above is written for the New Thread Quartet.

Performance Notes:

Accidentals remain in effect for the duration of the measure at the octave in which they occur. They are sometimes rewritten within a measure for clarity.

"ff risoluto" always indicates a subito change in dynamic.

Grace notes occur on the beat, as short as possible.

Tenuto marks indicate both weight and length.

Performance time: c. 7'30"

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