

# For Island of Culture 2014

# Commissioned by Culture Vannin

# SHIFT

## A suite in 3 movements for Brass Band

**Composed by Robert Quane** 

1. Dance: When the coffers were full

2. Lament: For the fields

3. Fanfare and Jig: Landlines

## **SHIFT**

### **Programme notes**

When I was asked by *Culture Vannin* to write something for Island of Culture 2014 I was excited and secretly flattered.

I decided to write something about the last thirty years or so since the 'boom years' of the mid 80s began. Something about the 'Shift' that has occurred — and the cultural artefacts that *really* define modern Manx identity. I also wanted to write music that was 'easy on the ear', full of melody and that other bands might chose to play. So I have picked on three things that speak to me about that 'shift'.

- 1. Dance: When the coffers were full is a sarcastic look at how we have already begun to make a myth of how good everything was before 2011 when the UK withdrew the VAT receipts we had enjoyed for several decades. It's irritatingly happy and full of endless sunny days and plenty.
- **2.** Lament: For the fields is a melody I wrote when, in the 1980s, the fields at Signpost Corner were developed. Whilst I understood why it had to be done for the sake a growing population, I felt that we hadn't had an opportunity as a community to recognise the losses of green fields that the Island was witnessing while much needed housing sprang up.
- **3. Fanfare and Jig:** *Landlines* recognises global telecoms that march ever onward in making our world smaller and our Island more and more part of a single global cultural identity.

If you are of a musical bent then the main themes are all telephone numbers based around the intervals from the key of the music. Thus the fanfare is entirely based around '441624' over '999'then '7624' joins in at the start of the jig. 'Music Services' '686535' appears in answer and Spectrum Windows '817777' becomes a theme for the trombones (we had a broken window catch whilst I was searching for ideas...). The '1471' 'ring back' appears as a duplet motif in the midst of compound time (though I got it a bit wrong and it's actually 1474147411).

#### **Opening Fanfare theme**



Interval from a D: 4 4 1 6 2 4.... etc

Robert Quane, 2014







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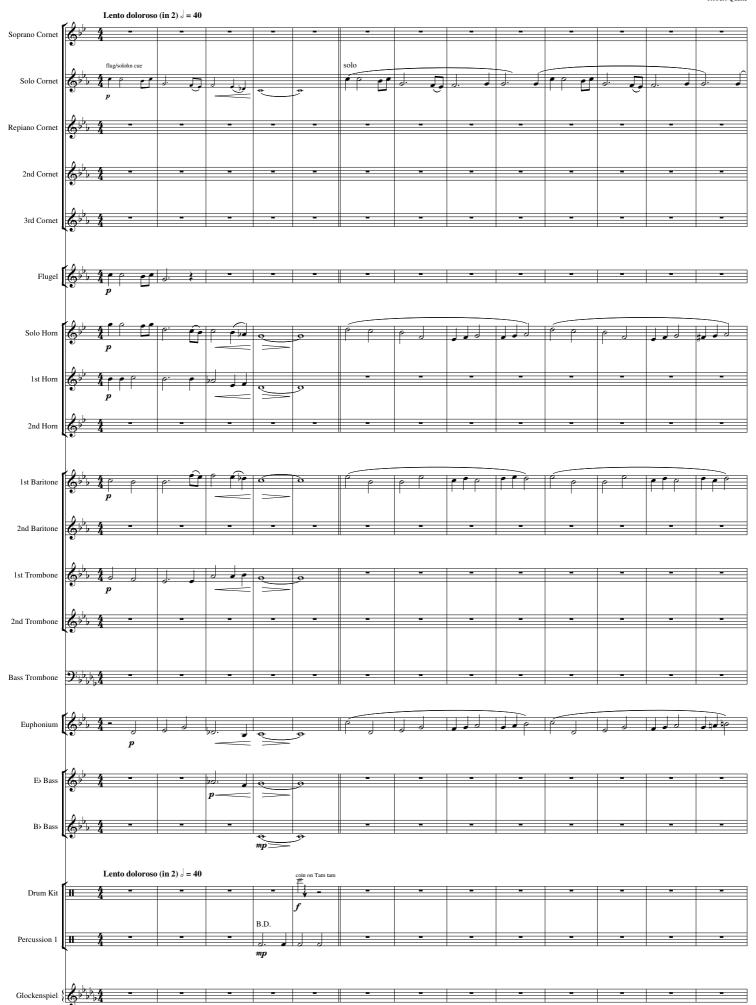




















pp

Glock.



ppp

Perc. 1

Glock.







