



# CCCT

THE CORNELIUS CARDEW CONCERTS TRUST



## CALL FOR COMPOSITIONS 2022

### “The Caravan Moves On”

The Cornelius Cardew Concerts Trust (CCCT), in partnership with the Music Department of Morley College and the Ligeti Quartet, with vocalist Lotte Betts-Dean, is issuing its call for compositions 2022 dedicated to the spirit of the New which Cornelius Cardew embodied. The theme this year is “**The Caravan Moves On**”. The inspiration is the poem with that title which we reproduce here.

The instrumentation is string quartet + mezzo-soprano (maximum range A3-A5, nothing sitting above the staff for too long). Our thinking is that we could make a song cycle, or indeed a song caravan, out of the submitted compositions or sections of them. It is proposed that this will be done in a workshop. Composers can choose lines from the poem to set, to be put together, or if composers set the whole poem to music, then passages could be selected and strung together. So the compositions or parts of compositions are put together to make a whole. This represents separate compositions making up a total which is more than simply the sum of its parts. If wished, composers can simply write instrumental music inspired by the poem. In this case, there is an option of adding a folk fiddle (played by Jo Cooper). Tips on writing for folk fiddle available on request. The concert will take place at Morley College on Friday, **November 11, 2022, 7.30pm**.

The concert will be preceded by a workshop. This will take place from 4pm-9pm on Friday, **October 7, 2022**. We hope it can be organised to be semi-virtual, with some composers being present and others connected online as necessary. The deadline for submitting compositions is Sunday, **September 25, 2022**. The workshop will discuss how the compositions realise the content of the theme and how this is reflected in the form of the compositions, as well as how to form a continuous collective whole.

We hope many composers will participate in this new project. We think it is commensurate with the example of Cornelius Cardew who linked his music with the struggle to open the door to progress, to a bright future of socialised humanity.

Scores should be sent as PDFs to the email of the CCCT (below).

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## **The Caravan Moves On**

We picked up items constantly from our journey

Here they all are merging together to form a life  
And yet the caravan still moves on  
We see the cups hanging up, stacking up the waters of life  
From work to retirement  
But on the road, all is work, all is retirement, before and after

We can all write our names on this tinker's caravan  
See, there they are if you look hard enough

And yes, our roaming stretches way back  
Way back to pogroms and exile  
And as if to deny this, the flowers bloom  
They all boost into bloom

Hear the jingling of harnesses  
Hear the rattling of wheels on shale  
Hear marbles swirling round in the tin cans that festoon our caravan

It is the journey that counts  
Accumulation not as accumulation  
But as making this life  
To be handed over to all of us

So, yes, this caravan is filled with mirth  
With colour, with joy, hope, talent, appreciation  
And deep love for people

This is now our caravan  
An act of being, an act of affirming life

All right, let us say it is joyous  
That is the conclusion  
The joy in the recognition of striving  
No despair, just the happening of life

The caravan moves on  
Join the caravan