

## ***Sonata across four elements***

- i) mountain stream with dipper**
- ii) barn owl: dusk**
- iii) desert flowers**
- iv) wildfire**

The ***Sonata across four elements*** was begun in 2004. It was initially inspired by an article in *Resurgence* magazine about a bird – the dipper – and its habitat, a fast-flowing stream. The writer was interested in the way in which the dipper could be seen as so deeply connected with this habitat as almost to embody it. This suggested a piece of music in which the flow of the ‘water’ and the bobbing and darting of the ‘bird’ were intertwined in various ways. Having written a fast piece of ‘water music’, it struck me that the other mediaeval elements – air, earth and fire - might be drawn upon for three further movements, to make a sonata with an ecological theme.

Julian Broughton, March 2012