

Rock Paper Scissors (2006)**Composer:** Annesley Black

Rock Paper Scissors- the game played by children to decide who gets to be goalie or turn the skipping rope. Each element of the trio is independent of the other, each has the equal ability to defeat the other, an idealistic portrayal of equality and justice articulated by chance. This trio was originally conceived as a piece that could be played both separately or as three individual solo pieces. As I found that I was unable to realise this concept in a fashion that was not arbitrary but justifiable, I focused on the stark differences of the three instruments and instrumentalists I was writing for. The differences fold into each other, reveal similarities, the tempos are exchanged equally between each musician, they intertwine into different combinations and degrees of together-ness and individuality, material is recycled, reiterated with slight alterations of pitch or rhythm, different forms of articulation or a colour change- at times characteristic to the instrument playing, at times borrowed from another instrument in the trio.

The premiere of this piece took place in Freiburg on Feb 5th, 2007 with Andrea Nagy (Bass Klarinette), Andrew Digby, (Posaune), Dario Calderone (Kontrabass).