

A Rhyme for the Season

The word 'rhyme' is derived from an old Frankish word *Rim* meaning 'series' or 'sequence', the contemporary definition reads 'a repetition of identical or similar sounds in two different words'. This short work, written for the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra to open their 2007 season, uses musical equivalents to various rhyme types such as masculine, feminine or assonant.

Rhythmic gestures and melodic contours are varied on subsequent returns in the manner of an end rhyme; rapid chordal progressions may differ outwardly but have internal similarities as an assonant rhyme might. These and other such compositional games provide the basis for this short concert "opener" whose ideas come thick and fast in a dramatic, ebullient and colourful manner.

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