“Versura” – 2007 – 10’

2 tpt hn trb tuba

VERSURA for brass quintet – Raymond Deane

*Versura* was commissioned by the Ottoni Brass Quintet in 2006, and completed the following year. The first sketches were composed in the Schwandorf artists' retreat (Bavaria) in November of that year, when I was about to start work on my opera *The Alma Fetish*, which employs a method of pitch organisation that I call "the fan principle" (fans play a major role in the plot of the opera) entailing chains of intervals which increase and decrease in size like the opening and closing of a fan. *Versura* represents an essay in the fairly basic use of this method. The title means "turning", and could refer to the place where one turns when ploughing, or to the turning from one line of verse to the next. The piece keeps returning to a similar point, from which it always moves in a different direction. It is dedicated to the members of the Ottoni Quintet.