# 64th International Rostrum of Composers

# BBC Radio 3 Submission 1/3

**Christian Mason**

Open to Infinity: a Grain of Sand (2015) was written as a 90th birthday present for Pierre Boulez. Reflecting on his mastery of the finest details in his own composition, I was inspired by the possibility of creating an expansive world from the smallest grain of musical material. I found this notion crystallised in William Blake’s poem Auguries of Innocence, from which the three movements take their titles: *I. ...in a Grain of Sand II. ...in a Wild Flower III. ...in the palm of your hand*

To see a World in a Grain of Sand

And a Heaven in a Wild Flower

Hold Infinity in the palm of your hand

And Eternity in an hour

The scope of the present work was not sufficient to meditate on the last line of the poem, however I do hope and expect to return to this source of inspiration in the future.