Allegro by Berkeley

Title: allegro - means fast and lively. This is the fifth piece from five short pieces, opus 4, by Berkeley.

Key/Form: this begins and ends in A aeolian mode/ A as a tonal centre. The beginning is monophonic (meaning one voice). The first section moves through Bb, C# and back to A. Section B begins at bar 9 with a new motive in the bass, in F major. Then moves to F# major in bar 13, F# minor in bar 15. Section B theme is repeated at bar 17 in D major. Moves to D# at bar 21, C mixolydian at bar 23, before finishing in A. Structure could be binary - Section A bars 1 to 8, Section B longer from bar 9 to the end (determined by texture and by rhythm).

Composer/Genres: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lennox Berkeley

chamber orchestral works, chamber works such as for two oboes, two pianos, oboe and piano etc. Organ works. Art songs. Concertos for instruments such as flute, guitar, three operas, choral works, solo piano works, solo guitar works.

Period: 20th Century

Style: pieces were predominantly rhythmic or textural over melodic, rhythmic complexity increased, new harmonies such as polytonality, polychords, atonality, serialism, (rejection of functional harmony), increased linear movement in texture, other influences such as jazz, pop music etc. Re rhythm, changing time signatures. Forms often through-composed or other formal structures such as palindromes.

Notation:

allegro - fast and lively metronome marking 96 crotchets per minute 11/8 - 11 quavers per bar - counted 3 plus 3 plus 2 plus 3 ** time signature changes a lot, know each of the time signatures which are mostly quaver based slurs - play legato staccato - play short and detatched crescendo (eg bar 3) - gradually get louder p - piano - soft f - forte - loud dim. - diminuendo - gradually get softer mf - mezzo forte - moderately loud > - accent - stress the note sharp signs - raise the note a semitone natural signs - cancel the sharp or flat flat signs - lower the note a semitone ff - fortissimo - very loud quaver rests - rest for 1 beat crotchet rests - rest for 2 beats