

papaver

For mixed choir (2013)

Dai Fujikura(music)

Harry Ross (text)

"Commissioned by ECHO – the European Concert Hall Organisation –
with the support of the Culture Programme of the European Union."

Duration: 5 min.

Bertincourt Château Hargicourt Bavelincourt Vermandovillers Ham British
Citadel Heudicourt Pigeon Ravine Unicorn Y Ravine Beaumont Hamel Point
Hundred and Ten

ephemeral flower tearful rivers

Fricourt German

of stone and mud and bone

Montdidier German

pick a poppy soon it withers

Ayette Indian and Chinese Bapaume Australian Douchy lès Ayette British

away on the journey home ask

Bernard Dieter Daksha Tom Harry Archibald Manfred Gerhard Nabhi
Chow Chang Mai Reginald Xavier Jack Konrad Christopher Adolf Waseem Benoît
Ting Chun Sheng Kristof Percival Paavan Frédéric Lutz Walter Yves Uwe
Stanley Étienne

do you think they still try to get back come back to try to go to their home

It is my painful duty to inform you that a report has been received
partie à remplir par le corps nom prénoms mort pour la France genre de mort
département Die Kompanie verliert in dem fürs Vaterland gefallenen
from the war office notifying the death of number name and Jugement
rendu par le Tribunal ou jugement transcrit le numero du registre d'état
civil un zero un sept zero

numbers of men written

on a form

in a file

archived in misfortune

let them rest a while

in the poppy field

dead heads shrivel and die

their seed will be released and they will sleep

as all the cars and lorries pass them by

their slip stream makes the petals fly

papaver rhoeas

poppy field

the poppies fly spread their seeds on traffic driving east and west silent

poppies speak in colours

Fly poppy speak in colours to the traffic passing by