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# THE SCHOOL OF UNDERSTANDING

(1996)

**SORT-OF-AN-OPERA**

MUSIC  
AND  
WORDS  
BY  
**MICHAEL MANTLER**

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FOR  
CHAMBER ENSEMBLE  
STRINGS  
  
8 VOICES  
SPEAKER



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*What Is The Word* by **Samuel Beckett**

from "As the Story was Told",  
Copyright © Samuel Beckett Estate 1962-1990  
Published by John Calder (Publishers) Ltd.  
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and the Calder Educational Trust, London

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News texts by Margery Mandell

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## INSTRUMENTATION

### VOICES

*OBSERVER*  
*TEACHER*  
*REFUGEE*  
*JOURNALIST*  
*STUDENT*  
*BUSINESSMAN*  
*DOCTOR*  
*GUEST OBSERVER*

### SPEAKER

*NEWSCASTER*

### CHAMBER ENSEMBLE

TRUMPET  
ELECTRIC GUITAR  
CLARINET / BASSCLARINET / FLUTE / OBOE  
VIOLIN  
VIOLIN  
VIOLA  
CELLO  
VIBRAPHONE / MARIMBA  
PIANO / SYNTHESIZER

### STRINGS

12 VIOLINS  
6 VIOLAS  
4 CELLOS  
4 BASSES

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## TITLES AND DURATIONS

### CD1

1	<b>PRELUDE</b>	7:43
2	<b>INTRODUCTIONS</b>	7:55
3	<b>FIRST LESSON</b>	3:56
4	<b>NEWS</b>	7:27
5	<b>LOVE BEGINS</b>	5:20
6	<b>WAR</b>	12:42
7	<b>PAUSE</b>	4:31
8	<b>UNDERSTANDING</b>	5:06

**54:43**

### CD2

1	<b>HEALTH AND POVERTY</b>	9:15
2	<b>LOVE CONTINUES</b>	2:57
3	<b>PLATITUDES</b>	5:43
4	<b>INTOLERANCE</b>	6:09
5	<b>LOVE ENDS</b>	5:12
6	<b>WHAT'S LEFT TO SAY</b>	1:19
7	<b>WHAT IS THE WORD</b> (Beckett)	5:40

**36:17**

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## NOTES

concert score  
there are no key signatures  
accidentals apply to measure and octave only