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LEIGHTON: Sacred Choral Music

NAXOS

Kenneth Leighton's distinctive compositional voice is characterized by rich, lush harmonies, subtle dissonance, rhythmic energy and a lilting, angular lyricism. Pithy thematic ideas and syncopated rhythms are allied to a brilliant mastery of counterpoint and a unique sense of melody borne of a lifelong love of hymns, chorale and chant. This collection features the two contrasting Canticle Settings, the *Easter Sequence* scored for boys' voices, organ and trumpet (played here by Crispian Steele-Perkins) and *Crucifixus pro nobis*, the austere, miniature masterpiece of a Passion setting for tenor, choir and organ which climaxes with one of English choral music's remarkable icons "Drop, drop, slow tears".

## Kenneth LEIGHTON

(1929-1988)

	Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis 'Collegium Magdalenae Oxoniense'	8:18
1	Magnificat	5:06
2	Nunc Dimittis	3:12
3	Give me the wings of faith	4:52
4-8	An Easter Sequence <sup>†</sup> <sup>o</sup>	13:44
9	Veni creator spiritus	5:03
10	What love is this of thine? <sup>o</sup>	6:17
11-14	Crucifixus pro nobis <sup>*</sup>	15:21
15	Rockingham: Chorale Prelude on 'When I survey the wondrous Cross'	3:12
	Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis (The Second Service)	10:38
16	Magnificat	6:36
17	Nunc Dimittis	4:02

Choir of St John's College, Cambridge • Christopher Robinson  
James Oxley, Tenor\* • Crispian Steele-Perkins, Trumpet<sup>†</sup> • Christopher Whitton, Organ  
Gareth Jones, Baritone Solo<sup>†</sup> • Benjamin Durrant, Treble Solo<sup>o</sup>

Recorded at St John's College Chapel, Cambridge, UK, 9th - 11th July 2002  
Producer: Andrew Walton (K&A Productions Ltd.) • Sound Engineer: Eleanor Thomason  
Post-Production: Andrew Walton • Booklet Notes: Andrew Burn  
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This recording has been recorded at 24bit resolution  
Cover Picture: *Library*, watercolour by John Doyle  
(reproduced by permission of Contemporary Watercolours Ltd.)  
A full track listing can be found on page 6 of the booklet

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Playing Time  
67:25

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Includes sung texts  
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