

CMYK

NAXOS

BRITTEN: Orchestral Song-Cycles • 2

8.557199

This second volume of Britten orchestral songs features his two arguably best-known works in the genre, together with a major vocal work from the very last years of the composer's life. The masterly *Serenade for Tenor, Horn and Strings* is an extraordinary example of Britten's ability to set an anthology of texts bound together by a similar theme, in this case, the world of night, sleep and dreams. Composed as a companion piece to the *Serenade*, the *Nocturne* employs a more ambiguous harmonic language. Here the tenor solo is joined by seven solo instruments, each imparting a different tone colour to each setting. *Phaedra* represents the distillation of a lifetime's expertise in operatic composition and remains one of the most dramatic cantatas for soprano in the repertoire.

Benjamin  
**BRITTEN**  
(1913-1976)  
Orchestral Song-Cycles • 2

- |       |  |       |
|-------|--|-------|
| 1-8   | Serenade for Tenor, Horn and Strings, Op. 31 (1943) <sup>1,3</sup> | 22:57 |
| 9-16  | Nocturne, Op. 60 (1958) <sup>1,4</sup>                             | 26:35 |
| 17-25 | Phaedra, Op. 93 (1975) <sup>2</sup>                                | 14:57 |

**Philip Langridge, Tenor <sup>1</sup> • Ann Murray, Mezzo-Soprano <sup>2</sup>**  
**Frank Lloyd, Horn <sup>3</sup> • Northern Sinfonia <sup>4</sup>**  
**English Chamber Orchestra • Stuart Bedford**

Recorded at Henry Wood Hall, London, UK (Tracks 1-8, 17-25) and St. Nicholas, Newcastle, UK (Tracks 9-16) in July 1994 • Producer: John H. West • Engineer: Mike Hatch  
Booklet Notes: Lloyd Moore • **Originally released by Collins Classics in 1994**  
Please see page 16 of the booklet for a complete track list • Publishers: Faber Music Ltd. (Tracks 17-25) and Boosey & Hawkes Ltd. • Cover Picture: *Moon and Alf at Avebury, 1975* by David Inshaw (Private Collection / Bridgeman Art Library)

**NAXOS RADIO** | Over 50 Channels of Classical Music • Jazz, Folk/World, Nostalgia  
[www.naxosradio.com](http://www.naxosradio.com) | Accessible Anywhere, Anytime • Near-CD Quality

NAXOS

DDD

8.557199

Playing Time  
64:29

© 1994 Lambourne Productions Ltd.  
© 2004 Naxos Rights International Ltd.  
Booklet notes in English • Kommentar auf Deutsch  
Made in the EU  
[www.naxos.com](http://www.naxos.com)

NAXOS

BRITTEN: Orchestral Song-Cycles • 2

8.557199