

NAXOS

8.557921

DDD

Playing Time
67:49

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Perhaps no other British composer of the first half of the twentieth century reveals a stylistic journey as varied as that of Frank Bridge, whose magnificent late-romantic orchestral suite *The Sea* (Naxos 8.557167) is his best known work. His later style of composition, more experimental and demanding, and with no concessions to contemporary popular taste, was strongly influenced by the war of 1914-18. This is exemplified in his masterpiece, the *Piano Sonata*, completed in 1924, in his *Lament for Catherine*, for a child lost when the *Lusitania* was torpedoed and, less directly, in his *Three Improvisations for the Left Hand*, for the pianist Douglas Fox, who had lost an arm in the war.

Frank BRIDGE

(1879-1941)

Piano Music • 2

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|----|---|--------------|
| | Piano Sonata (1921-24) | 34:39 |
| 1 | Lento ma non troppo – Andante ben moderato – Allegro energico | 15:33 |
| 2 | Andante ben moderato | 9:22 |
| 3 | Lento – Allegro ma non troppo | 9:44 |
| 4 | Lament for Catherine (1915) | 4:58 |
| | Three Improvisations for the Left Hand (1918) | 8:55 |
| 5 | At Dawn | 4:15 |
| 6 | A Vigil | 2:52 |
| 7 | A Revel | 1:48 |
| | Three Sketches (1906) | 8:18 |
| 8 | April | 2:35 |
| 9 | Rosemary | 4:01 |
| 10 | Valse capricieuse | 1:41 |
| 11 | Moderato (1903) | 2:57 |
| 12 | Pensées fugitives I: Andante moderato (1902) | 3:18 |
| 13 | Scherzettino: Prestissimo (1902) | 4:43 |

Ashley Wass, Piano

Recorded at St George's Church, Brandon Hill, Bristol, UK, from 7th to 9th September, 2005

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