



8.570415

DDD

Playing Time
63:02

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Central to Lennox Berkeley's chamber music output are the three string quartets that occur at regular intervals during the first half of his career. The *First Quartet* suggests the presence of Bartók and Stravinsky, its style recalling Berkeley's years in Paris, while by the time of the *Second Quartet*, in which the balance between formal clarity and expressive depth is effortlessly achieved, these influences have been thoroughly absorbed. Written in 1970, the *Third Quartet* features one of the composer's finest slow movements, a *Lento* which begins with ghostly harmonics before building to a climax of considerable intensity.

Lennox BERKELEY

(1903-1989)

String Quartet No. 1, Op. 6 (1935) 26:27

- | | | |
|---|----------------------------------|------|
| 1 | Allegro – Moderato | 7:51 |
| 2 | Andante non troppo – Lento | 5:55 |
| 3 | Scherzo: Vivace | 3:53 |
| 4 | Tema and 6 variations – Moderato | 8:48 |

String Quartet No. 2, Op. 15 (1941) 18:30

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|---|------------------|------|
| 5 | Allegro moderato | 7:12 |
| 6 | Lento | 5:30 |
| 7 | Allegro | 5:48 |

String Quartet No. 3, Op. 76 (1970) 18:05

- | | | |
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| 8 | Allegro moderato | 4:32 |
| 9 | Allegro vivace | 2:21 |
| 10 | Lento | 6:05 |
| 11 | Molto vivace | 5:07 |

Maggini Quartet

Lorraine McAslan, Violin I • David Angel, Violin II
Martin Outram, Viola • Michal Kaznowski, Cello

Recorded at Potton Hall, Westleton, Suffolk, England, from 7th to 9th December, 2006
Producer and engineer: Michael Ponder • Editor: Eleanor Thomason • Booklet notes: Richard Whitehouse
Publishers: Hawkes and Son, Ltd. (tracks 1-4); J.W. Chester, Ltd. (tracks 5-11)

Cover image: *Village Lane* by Spencer Frederick Gore (1878-1914)
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