



DDD

8.555210

Playing Time
50:45

www.naxos.com

© 1995 & © 2022 Naxos Rights US, Inc.
Booklet notes in English
Made in Germany

Arthur Sullivan is best remembered today for his Savoy Operas with W.S. Gilbert, but during his lifetime Sullivan was also famed for his church, concert hall and stage works. These three sets of incidental music show his versatility in the genre. The music for *The Merry Wives of Windsor* has a joviality and lightness that matches its pantomime mood, while the concert suite for *Macbeth* weaves together nervous tension and impending tragedy. By contrast, *King Arthur* required one of Sullivan's specialties, a sequence of choruses, edited after his death into this evocative suite.



Sir Arthur SULLIVAN

(1842–1900)

Macbeth – Incidental Music (1888)

- | | |
|--|------|
| 1 Overture | 7:55 |
| 2 Andante* | 1:58 |
| 3 Act V: Prelude –
Andante con espressione* | 2:17 |
| 4 Act VI: Prelude* | 2:18 |
| 5 Act IV: Introduction* | 1:26 |
| 6 Chorus of Spirits in the Air
– Allegro vivace* | 1:07 |
| 7 Chorus of Witches and Spirits
– Allegro vivace e con fuoco* | 2:11 |

19:14

King Arthur – Incidental Music

(1895) (ed. Wilfred Bendall
[1850–1920])*

- | | |
|--|--------------|
| 8 Chorus of Lake Spirits | 5:05 |
| 9 Chorus of Unseen Spirits | 1:33 |
| 10 The Chant of the Grail | 4:29 |
| 11 The May Song | 2:38 |
| 12 Funeral March and Final Chorus | 3:39 |
| The Merry Wives of Windsor
– Incidental Music (1874)* | 13:56 |
| 13 Prelude, and Dances of Fairies | 3:46 |
| 14 Song – Andante | 3:04 |
| 15 Song – ‘As I am a true spirit, welcome!’ | 2:51 |
| 16 Dance – Allegro vivace | 1:55 |
| 17 Dance with chorus – Allegro vivace | 2:20 |

17:24

*WORLD PREMIERE RECORDING

Maggie McDonald, Mezzo-soprano 14 15

RTÉ Chamber Choir • Colin Mawby, Director 16–17 15 17

RTÉ Concert Orchestra • Andrew Penny

Previously released on Marco Polo 8.223635

Recorded: 17–19 November 1993 at the National Concert Hall, Dublin, Ireland

Producer: Chris Craker • Engineer: Simon Rhodes • Booklet notes: Selwyn Tillet

Cover: *Herne's Oak* from *The Merry Wives of Windsor* by George Cruikshank (1792–1878)