

Walton's searing oratorio, *Belshazzar's Feast*, written for baritone, chorus and a huge orchestra with an augmented brass section, takes as its subject the scene from the Bible (Book of Daniel) in which, at King Belshazzar's Feast, a hand appears and prophetically writes a doom-laden message on the wall. Often compared on account of its pulsating drive and barbaric splendour with Orff's *Carmina Burana*, *Belshazzar's Feast* is now regarded as the finest British large-scale choral work since Elgar's *Dream of Gerontius*.

Friends of
Opera North

William
WALTON
(1902-1983)

1	Belshazzar's Feast	34:13	7	Then sing aloud to God	4:23
2	Thus spake Isaiah	5:13	8	The trumpeters and pipers are silent	1:03
3	If I forget thee, O Jerusalem	5:03	9	Then sing aloud to God	3:36
4	Babylon was a great city	4:28	10	Crown Imperial	6:45
5	Praise ye	5:16	11	Orb and Sceptre	7:20
6	Thus in Babylon	3:14			
7	And in that same hour	1:57			

Christopher Purves, Baritone • Simon Lindley, Organ
Huddersfield Choral Society • Leeds Philharmonic Chorus
Laudibus • English Northern Philharmonia • Paul Daniel

Recorded at the Town Hall, Leeds, UK., on the 30th June and 1st July, 2001 (Tracks 1-9)
and on 7th July and 25th October, 1996 (Tracks 10-11) • Producers: Andrew Walton
(K&A Productions Ltd.) (Tracks 1-9) and Chris Craker (Tracks 10-11)

Engineers: Eleanor Thomason & Mike Clements (Tracks 1-9) and David Harries (Tracks 10-11)
Post-production: Andrew Walton and Peter Newble (Tracks 1-9) • MCPS

This recording was made and edited at 24bit resolution

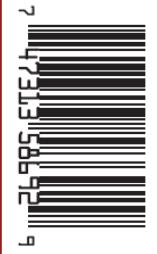
Cover Picture: *Belshazzar's Feast c.1636-38* by Rembrandt Harmensz. van Rijn, (1606-69)
(The National Gallery, London, UK / Bridgeman Art Library)



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8.555869

Playing Time
48:17



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