

Peter Maxwell Davies is universally acknowledged as one of the foremost composers of our time, and is currently Master of the Queen's Music. Plainchant, musical tradition and the haunting landscape of his adopted Orkney Islands all serve as inspiration to Maxwell Davies' extraordinary and fecund imagination. This is the third release in a series of ten quartets commissioned by Naxos. *Naxos Quartet No. 5* was inspired by the dramatic sweeping beams of Orcadian lighthouses, while the composer himself describes *Naxos Quartet No. 6* as "an ambitious work of six movements – a counterbalance in the cycle of ten quartets to the relatively slight fourth and fifth".

PETER MAXWELL DAVIES (b. 1934)

Naxos Quartets Nos. 5 and 6

Naxos Quartet No. 5:

Lighthouses of Orkney and Shetland

1 I. Largo 8:16

2 II. Lento 12:16

Naxos Quartet No. 6

3 I. Allegro 6:27

4 II. Allegro moderato

(Dominica Tertia
Adventus Antiphona) 2:07

5 III. Presto 5:18

6 IV. Adagio molto 13:28

7 V. Andante
(In Die Nativitatis) 3:12

8 VI. Allegro 4:35

Maggini Quartet

Laurence Jackson, Violin 1 • David Angel, Violin 2

Martin Outram, Viola • Michal Kaznowski, Cello

Recorded from 26th to 28th May 2005, at Potton Hall, Suffolk, England
Producer: Andrew Walton (K&A Productions Ltd.) • Sound Engineer: Eleanor Thomason

Post-Production: Eleanor Thomason and Andrew Walton

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