

Tippett's four *Piano Sonatas* span a period of nearly fifty years and crystalize important facets of his musical development. Indeed, listeners might be forgiven for thinking his first three sonatas were written by three different composers, so different are their style and musical exploration. The neo-classical *Sonata No. 1* is, in Tippett's own words, 'a young man's work, with all the exuberance of discovery and creation which that commonly implies'. *Sonata No. 2* was written immediately after Tippett's second opera *King Priam* and is similarly austere and angular. In contrast *Sonata No. 3* concentrates on the sonorous capabilities of the instrument, opening up new vistas of harmony and colour.

**Michael
TIPPETT**
(1905–1998)

Sonata No. 1 (1936-7, rev. 1942)

19:18

- | | | |
|----------|----------------------------------|-------------|
| 1 | I Allegro | 6:54 |
| 2 | II Andante tranquillo | 3:46 |
| 3 | III Presto | 4:03 |
| 4 | IV Rondo giocoso con moto | 4:35 |

5 Sonata No. 2 in one movement (1962)

11:46

Sonata No. 3 (1973)

22:30

- | | | |
|----------|-----------------------------|--------------|
| 6 | I Allegro | 5:57 |
| 7 | II Lento | 11:04 |
| 8 | III Allegro energico | 5:29 |

Peter Donohoe

Recorded in Pottton Hall, Suffolk, UK, on 21st May (Tracks 1-5) and 13th December (Tracks 6-8), 2004

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Playing Time
53:34



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