

The works of the British composer William Alwyn, whose centenary falls this year, include five symphonies, concertos, operas and more than two hundred film scores. Like his contemporary Samuel Barber, Alwyn was an unashamed Romantic who preferred his music to appeal to the heart rather than to the head. This first disc in a new series of Alwyn's complete symphonies includes his *Symphony No. 2*, an innovative yet accessible work which alternates passages of quiet ecstasy and tumultuous energy. *Symphony No. 5* has an epic sweep which belies its short duration of a quarter of an hour. Alwyn's pastoral harp concerto, *Lyra Angelica*, interweaves the harp and strings into "a continuous web of luminous sound".



William
ALWYN
(1905-1985)

Symphonies Nos. 2 and 5 • Lyra Angelica

Symphony No. 5
(‘*Hydriotaphia*’)

1 **Moderato – Allegro non troppo**
– Andante sostenuto – Allegro
con fuoco – **Tempo di Marcia**
funebre **14:27**

**‘Lyra Angelica’ Concerto for
harp and string orchestra***

2 **Adagio** **7:55**
3 **Adagio, ma non troppo** **6:55**

4 **Moderato** **7:20**

5 **Allegro giubilosamente –**
Andante con moto **5:52**

Symphony No. 2

6 **Con Moto – Molto moderato –**
Quasi Adagio molto
calmato **11:44**

7 **Allegro molto – Moderato**
largamente – Molto
tranquillo **15:38**

Suzanne Willison, Harp*

Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra • David Lloyd-Jones

This recording was made with financial assistance from The William Alwyn Foundation

Recorded at the Philharmonic Hall, Liverpool from 4th-6th January, 2005

Publisher: Alfred Lengnick & Co., Ltd. • Producer: Tim Handley

Engineer: Phil Rowlands • Booklet notes: William Alwyn and Andrew Knowles

Cover image: *The Harp Player, a study of Annie Miller* by Dante Charles Gabriel Rossetti (1828-82)
(The Maas Gallery, London, UK / www.bridgeman.co.uk)



DDD

8.557647

Playing Time
69:52



© & © 2005
Naxos Rights International Ltd.
Booklet notes in English
Made in Canada
www.naxos.com