

Written for the striking contralto Clara Butt, who gave the work's première in a dress said to resemble a mermaid, *Sea Pictures* is Elgar's only song cycle with orchestra. These exquisite miniatures depict the sea in all its guises, peaceful and storm-tossed by turns. The heartfelt *Where Corals Lie* is perhaps the most remarkable three minutes in all of Elgar. Inspired by the notion that artists are the real creators and the true makers of history and society ('We are the music makers, And we are the dreamers of dreams'), *The Music Makers* is a largely intimate and nostalgic work, which quotes several times from Elgar's other compositions.

Edward
ELGAR
(1857–1934)

The Music Makers, Op. 69	39:39	9 For we are afar with the dawning	2:49
1 Introduction –Moderato	3:32	10 Great hail! We cry to the corners	8:50
2 We are the music makers	2:08		
3 With wonderful deathless ditties	1:51	Sea Pictures, Op. 37	23:05
4 We, in the ages lying	4:17	11 Sea Slumber-Song	5:52
5 A breath of our inspiration	4:29	12 In Haven (Capri)	1:55
6 They had no vision amazing	3:32	13 Sabbath Morning at Sea	5:50
7 And therefore today is thrilling	4:21	14 Where Corals Lie	3:35
8 But we, with our dreaming and singing	3:36	15 The Swimmer	5:57

Sarah Connolly, Mezzo-Soprano
Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra and Chorus
Simon Wright

Recorded at The Concert Hall, Lighthouse, Poole, UK from 7th to 8th January, 2006

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(Yale Centre for British Art, Paul Mellon Collection, USA / Bridgeman Art Library)



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Playing Time
62:44



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