

THE STORY OF BRITISH CLASSICAL MUSIC

by Anthony Burton

The story of British classical music extends over more than a thousand years. A distinctive national tone was identifiable already in medieval times, and in the fifteenth century Dunstable was a leading international figure. The Renaissance saw the emergence of great composers such as Tallis, Byrd and Gibbons, and the seventeenth century was lit up by the brief but brilliant career of Purcell. After a long period dominated by composers from abroad, British creativity reasserted itself once more on the world stage, with Elgar and Vaughan Williams. Their successors, Britten and Tippett, opened the way for the crowded and diverse scene of the present day. British writer and broadcaster Anthony Burton traces this history in an informative 120-page booklet. Two packed CDs with a glorious selection of music, mostly complete works or movements, illustrate the story and offer richly enjoyable listening in their own right.

- 2 CDs with music by 36 different composers
- 20,000-word essay and appendices
- Illustrated with composer photographs throughout

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