



DDD

8.570201

Playing Time  
72:06

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Booklet Notes and sung texts in English  
Kommentar auf Deutsch  
Sung texts can also be accessed at  
<http://www.naxos.com/librefit/570201.htm>  
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William Alwyn composed prolifically in virtually all genres, orchestral, chamber, vocal and instrumental. His major works for the voice were composed during the latter part of his career, between 1965 and 1980, and include four of the song-cycles recorded here. These are settings of poems by the composer himself, the Irish poet Louis MacNeice, and the composer's good friend, Michael Armstrong, who lived for over 40 years in Jersey where he derived much inspiration from the sea and the surrounding landscape. Seven of the songs here receive their world première recording.

WORLD PREMIERE  
RECORDINGS

## William ALWYN

(1905-1985)

### Mirages: A Song Cycle for Baritone and Piano (1970)

- |                               |       |
|-------------------------------|-------|
| <b>1</b> Undine               | 23:26 |
| <b>2</b> Aquarium             | 5:21  |
| <b>3</b> The Honeysuckle      | 2:53  |
| <b>4</b> Metronome            | 3:22  |
| <b>5</b> Paradise             | 4:52  |
| <b>6</b> Portrait in a Mirror | 1:33  |
|                               | 5:24  |

### Six Nocturnes for Baritone and Piano (1973) \*

- |                                |       |
|--------------------------------|-------|
| <b>7</b> Everything is Now     | 13:14 |
| <b>8</b> Summer Rain           | 2:39  |
| <b>9</b> Visitation: Andantino | 1:19  |
| <b>10</b> Summer Night         | 3:13  |
| <b>11</b> Circle               | 1:56  |
| <b>12</b> Response             | 2:12  |
|                                | 1:55  |

**Elin Manahan Thomas, Soprano** [14-24] • **Jeremy Huw Williams, Baritone** [1-13]  
**John Turner, Treble Recorder** [14-17] • **Iain Burnside, Piano** [1-24]

**13** Slum Song (1947) \* 4:10

**Seascapes: Four Songs  
for Soprano, Treble Recorder  
and Piano (1980)** 10:40

- |                                   |      |
|-----------------------------------|------|
| <b>14</b> Dawn at Sea             | 2:05 |
| <b>15</b> Sea-Mist                | 2:07 |
| <b>16</b> Song of the Drowned Man | 2:15 |
| <b>17</b> Black Gulls             | 4:14 |

**Invocations: A Song Cycle (1977)** 20:36

- |  |      |
|--|------|
| <b>18</b> Through the Centuries                | 3:27 |
| <b>19</b> Holding the Night                    | 2:19 |
| <b>20</b> Separation                           | 3:48 |
| <b>21</b> Drought                              | 3:28 |
| <b>22</b> Spring Rain                          | 1:55 |
| <b>23</b> Invocation to the Queen of Moonlight | 3:36 |
| <b>24</b> Our Magic Horse                      | 2:03 |

This recording was made with financial assistance from The William Alwyn Foundation  
See page 2 of the booklet for a detailed tracklisting • Publishers: Alfred Lengnick & Co. (tracks 1-12 & 18-24);

Oxford University Press (track 13) and Forsyth Bros., Ltd. (tracks 14-17)

Tracks 1-13 recorded at Potton Hall, Westleton, Suffolk, UK, 10-11 October, 2006

Tracks 14-17 recorded at Henry Wood Hall, London, 6 April, 2007

Tracks 18-24 recorded at Potton Hall, Westleton, Suffolk, UK, 21 and 22 March, 2006

Producer & Engineer: Michael Ponder • Editor: Jennifer Howells

*Elin Manahan Thomas appears courtesy of Universal Classics and Jazz*

Booklet Notes: William Alwyn, Andrew Knowles and John Turner

\* denotes world première recording • Cover Photo: Seascape (dreamstime.com)