

John Tavener's piano works are less well known than his large orchestral, vocal and choral works, yet at times seem to mark his stylistic and spiritual development on a more personal level. Tavener's first piano work, *Palin*, foreshadows his search for a spirituality beyond the sophisticated, technical manipulation of musical material. The loss of his cats inspired Tavener to write *Mandooodles*, depicting short scenes from the life of his cat Mandu, and the bell-like *In Memory of Two Cats*. *Ypakoë*, with passages in Greek or Middle Eastern style, is a contemplative meditation on the passion and resurrection of Christ. *Pratirūpa*, Sanskrit for "reflection", is the composer's largest work so far for piano solo. In the words of the composer, in this work "a series of self-reflecting harmonies, melodies and rhythms attempt to reflect the most beautiful, the Divine Presence which resides in every human being".

Sir John
TAVENER
 (b. 1944)
Piano Music

1	Zodiacs (1997)	1:55
2	Ypakoë (1997)	13:34
3	Palin (1977)	8:42
4	Mandooodles (1982)	4:55
5	Pratirūpa (2003)	29:42
6	In Memory of Two Cats (1986)	2:11



Ralph van Raat, Piano

Recorded at Potton Hall, Westleton, Suffolk, England, on 7th and 8th March, 2007

Producer and engineer: Michael Ponder • Editor: Jennifer Howells

Booklet notes: Ralph van Raat • Publisher: Chester Music Ltd.

Cover image: *Stones* by Olga Lyubkina (Dreamstime.com)

NAXOS

DDD

8.570442

Playing Time
 61:00



© & © 2008 Naxos Rights International Ltd.
 Booklet notes in English • Kommentar auf Deutsch
 Made in Germany
www.naxos.com