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 Playing Time
 68:53

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For British composer William Alwyn CBE the string quartet was the “most perfect of mediums”. His *String Quartet No. 1* of 1953 recalls the sound worlds of Dvořák, Janáček and Smetana, while repaying his debt to the Czech tradition with memorably original music. Almost 22 years later, his *Second Quartet*, ‘*Spring Waters*’, was prefaced by lines from Turgenev’s novel of the same name: “My careless years, / My precious days, / like the waters of springtime, / Have melted away.” The passionate opening of his *Third*, composed in 1984 and Alwyn’s swansong, leads to a conclusion of elegiac serenity.

William
ALWYN
 (1905-1985)

String Quartet No. 1 in D minor	23:07
① <i>Moderato e grazioso</i>	5:45
② <i>Allegro molto</i>	4:07
③ <i>Adagio</i>	6:06
④ <i>Allegro vivace, molto ritmico</i>	7:09
String Quartet No. 2 ‘Spring Waters’	20:24
⑤ <i>Moderato – Lento – Adagio</i>	9:04
⑥ <i>Allegro scherzando</i>	5:30
⑦ <i>Adagio – Allegro moderato – Adagio e tranquillo – Allegro al fine</i>	5:50
String Quartet No. 3	22:47
⑧ <i>Allegro molto</i>	10:01
⑨ <i>Adagio – Allegro – Adagio</i>	12:46
⑩ <i>Novelette: Allegro con brio</i>	2:35

Maggini Quartet

Lorraine McAslan, Violin 1 • David Angel, Violin 2
Martin Outram, Viola • Michal Kaznowski, Cello

This recording was made with financial assistance from The William Alwyn Foundation
 Includes Free Downloadable Bonus Track available at www.classicsonline.com
 Please see inside booklet for full details

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 (Tretyakov Gallery, Moscow, Russia / The Bridgeman Art Library)