

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

- 1 Moderato e grazioso 5:45
- 2 Allegro molto 4:07
- 3 Adagio 6:06
- 4 Allegro vivace, molto ritmico 7:09

23:07

String Quartet No. 2 ‘Spring Waters’

20:24

- 5 Moderato – Lento – Adagio 9:04
- 6 Allegro scherzando 5:30
- 7 Adagio – Allegro moderato – Adagio e tranquillo – Allegro al fine 5:50

String Quartet No. 3

22:47

- 8 Allegro molto 10:01
- 9 Adagio – Allegro – Adagio 12:46

10 Novelette: Allegro con brio

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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DDD

Playing Time
68:53



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