

Benefitting from the afterglow of the 1949 Koussevitzky Prize for his *First Symphony*, Peter Racine Fricker's original and striking *First Quartet* was premiered later that year to international acclaim. The *Second Quartet* shares a formal clarity and kinship with the tonality heard in the *First*, but evolving in range, technique and eloquence of expression. The symmetrical *Third Quartet* with its intricate variations is finely crafted in the serial style of Fricker's later music.



Peter Racine  
**FRICKER**  
(1920-90)

**String Quartet No. 1,  
Op. 8 (1948-49)\*** 15:16

- 1 Adagio appassionato – Con brio – Meno mosso – Adagio ma liberamente – Con brio – Meno mosso tranquillamente – Vivo

**String Quartet No. 2,  
Op. 20 (1952-53)** 23:08

- 2 I. Inquieto allegro 10:10
- 3 II. Molto allegro 5:26
- 4 III. Adagio 7:32

**String Quartet No. 3,  
Op. 73 (1976)\*** 22:22

- 5 I. Presto – Poco meno mosso 5:12
- 6 II. Allegro feroce 1:55
- 7 III. Adagio 4:27
- 8 IV. Allegro inquieto 2:10
- 9 V. Presto – Variations 1-8 – Coda più presto 8:38

**Adagio and Scherzo (1943)\*** 9:38

- 10 I. Adagio 5:02
- 11 II. Scherzo (Allegro) 4:36

\*WORLD PREMIÈRE RECORDING

**Villiers Quartet**

**James Dickenson, Violin I • Tamaki Higashi, Violin II  
Carmen Flores, Viola • Nicholas Stringfellow, Cello**

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Recorded at the Church of St John the Evangelist, Upper Norwood, London, UK, on 15th and 16th October, 2015 (track 1), on 16th July, 2016 (tracks 2-4, 10-11), and on 6th January, 2016 (tracks 5-9)

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Booklet notes: Christopher Husted • Cover photo: *Peter Racine Fricker, c. 1955*



**DDD**

8.571374

Playing Time  
70:23



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