

Performances of carols both ancient and modern have become central to the celebration of Christmas. The choral music on this disc includes Holst's surprisingly neglected *Christmas Day*, as well as music by Leighton, Joubert, Mathias, Gardner and Rutter. The nostalgic mood of Howells's evergreen carol-anthems is echoed in Finzi's *In terra pax*, which recalls the pealing of bells at midnight on a frosty Christmas Eve. The City of London Choir, which enjoys an enviable reputation as a 'leader among non-professional choruses' (*The Times*), makes its Naxos débüt with this delightful recording.

IN TERRA PAX

1 Holst: Christmas Day	7:37	10 Leighton: A hymn of the Nativity	6:14
2 Joubert: There is no rose	2:23	11 Rutter: What sweeter music	4:21
3 Mathias: Sir Christēmas	1:26	12 Gardner: Tomorrow shall be my dancing day	2:00
4 Howells: Here is the little door	3:30	13 Mathias: A babe is born	3:05
5 Howells: A spotless Rose	3:10	14-17 Vaughan Williams: Folk songs of the four seasons – Winter	14:49
6 Finzi: In terra pax – Christmas scene	16:16		
7-9 Warlock: Three carols	6:04		

Julia Doyle, Soprano • Roderick Williams, Baritone
Mark Williams, Organ and Piano

City of London Choir
Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra
Hilary Davan Wetton

A full track list and recording details can be found on page 2 of the booklet

The sung texts are included, and may also be accessed at www.naxos.com/libretti/572102.htm

Executive producer: Jenny Robinson

Producer and editor: Andrew Walton (K&A Productions Ltd.)

Engineers: Phil Rowlands (tracks 1, 6-9, 14-17); Andrew Lang (tracks 2-5, 10-13)

Assistant engineer: Deborah Spanton • Booklet notes: John Allison

Cover: *An Angel Playing a Flageolet* by Sir Edward Burne-Jones (1833-98)
(Private Collection / The Bridgeman Art Library)



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70:56



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