

Described by his teacher, Stanford, as 'the one who most fulfilled the accepted ideas of genius', the poet and composer Ivor Gurney composed more than 300 songs despite suffering from bipolar disorder and tuberculosis. The *Five Elizabethan Songs* show the young composer's astonishing limpid fluency, while *Tears* and *Sleep* rank among his most exquisite creations. Comedy, desolation and love-lorn longing all touch the music of this 'lover and maker of beauty', whose songs find ideal interpreters in Susan Bickley and Iain Burnside.

Ivor GURNEY

(1890–1937)

1 On the downs	1:52	15 Last Hours	3:42
2 Ha'nacker Mill	2:19	16 Cathleen ni Houlihan	2:56
3 The bonnie Earl of Murray *	1:48	17 A cradle song	2:27
4 The cherry trees *	1:07	18 The fiddler of Dooney	1:55
5 By a bierside	3:59	19 Snow	2:03
		20 The Singer	2:25
Five Elizabethan Songs	12:45	21 Nine of the clock	0:53
6 Orpheus with his lute	2:17	22 Epitaph in old mode	2:17
7 Tears	3:09	23 The Ship	2:20
8 Under the greenwood tree	1:35	24 The Scribe	2:40
9 Sleep	3:06	25 Fain would I change that note	2:45
10 Spring	2:37	26 An Epitaph	1:50
		27 When death to either shall come	1:32
11 The Apple Orchard	1:09	28 Thou didst delight my eyes	2:05
(from <i>Seven Sappho Songs</i>)		29 The boat is chafing	1:28
12 All night under the moon	3:12	30 Lights out	3:55
13 The Latmian Shepherd	3:45		
14 I will go with my	2:26		
father a-ploughing			

* First recording

Susan Bickley, Mezzo-Soprano • Iain Burnside, Piano

Recorded at Potton Hall, Westleton, Suffolk, England, from 24th to 26th June, 2008

Producer and Editor: Andrew Walton (K&A Productions Ltd.) • Engineer: Phil Rowlands

Booklet Notes: Roderic Dunnett • This recording was sponsored by the Ivor Gurney Society

Includes available sung texts which are also accessible at www.naxos.com/libretti/572151.htm

Publishers: Oxford University Press (Tracks 1–2, 4–5, 11–13, 15–24 and 26–29);

Boosey and Hawkes Music Publishers Ltd. (Tracks 3, 6–10 and 14) and Stainer and Bell (track 30).

Track 25 is unpublished. • Cover Photo: *Painswick Beacon* by Lucy Boden

NAXOS

DDD

8.572151

Playing Time
71:36



© & © 2009 Naxos Rights International Ltd.
Booklet notes in English
Available sung texts included
Made in Germany
www.naxos.com