

Sir Peter Maxwell Davies' *Second Symphony* is his 'Sea Symphony', a complex, virtuosic work that explores in absorbing, increasingly dynamic fashion, the ocean's proximity and what the composer calls 'the architecture of its forms'. Both themes and orchestration are masterly. The percussion section is richly voiced, adding considerably to the symphony's very particular, rugged and varied sound world. *St Thomas Wake*, by contrast, is a disquieting but bravura exercise in parody, evoking memories of the composer's experiences during the Second World War.

Sir Peter
MAXWELL DAVIES
 (b. 1934)

Symphony No. 2 • St Thomas Wake

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| | Symphony No. 2 (1980) | 56:02 |
| ① | I. Allegro molto – Allegro | 16:52 |
| ② | II. Adagio | 16:15 |
| ③ | III. Allegro molto, leggiero | 9:30 |
| ④ | IV. Adagio, flessibile – Poco più mosso – Più mosso – Moderato – Allegro | 13:25 |
| ⑤ | St Thomas Wake (1969) | 20:38 |

Foxtrot for orchestra on a pavan by John Bull

BBC Philharmonic • Maxwell Davies

Previously released on Collins Classics in 1991 and 1994

Recorded by arrangement with BBC North at Studio 7, New Broadcasting House, Manchester, UK, in September 1993 (tracks 1-4), and live at the 47th Cheltenham International Festival of Music, Cheltenham Town Hall, Gloucestershire, UK, on 12th and 13th July, 1991 (track 5)

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DDD

Playing Time
 76:40



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