

Of Georgian/Russian and Greek/Austrian parentage, British composer Lydia Kakabadse has a number of music theatre, vocal, choral and chamber works to her credit. The *Arabian Rhapsody Suite* for string quartet is characterized by vibrant rhythms and melodies of the Middle East while *Russian Tableaux*, also for string quartet, is a bitter-sweet tribute to the landscape, history and culture of Russia. Set to texts by the 19th-century poet Thomas Hood, *The Song of the Shirt* tells the story of the pitiful existence of a poor seamstress. *The Mermaid* is based on the composer's own fairy tale and the haunting musical drama *The Phantom Listeners* was inspired by Walter de la Mare's poetry.

**Lydia
KAKABADSE**
(b.1955)

1-3	The Mermaid	11:59
4-6	Russian Tableaux	10:48
7	The Song of the Shirt	4:04
8-10	Arabian Rhapsody Suite	9:48
11-16	The Phantom Listeners	38:34

Kit Hesketh-Harvey, Narrator ^{1,5}

Emma Brain-Gabbott, Soprano ⁵ • **Clare McCaldin, Mezzo-soprano** ^{1,3,5}

Michael Bundy, Baritone ⁵ • **Madeleine Easton, Violin** ^{1,2,4,5}

Sarah-Jane Bradley, Viola ^{1,2,4,5} • **Bozidar Vukotic, Cello** ^{1,2,4}

Caroline Dale, Cello ⁵ • **Ben Griffiths, Double bass** ^{1,2,4}

Tim Amherst, Double bass ⁵ • **Nigel Shipway, Timpani** ⁵

Ben Fullbrook, Percussion ⁵ • **Christian Wilson, Piano/Organ** ^{1,3,5}

George Vass, Conductor ^{1,5}

A detailed tracklist appears on page 8 of the booklet

Recorded at St Michael's Church, South Grove, Highgate, London on 5th, 15th and 16th February, 2010.

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Booklet Notes: Lydia Kakabadse • Cover art: *The Traveller's Ghostly Tale* by John Dyer

Available sung/narrated texts may be accessed at www.naxos.com/libretti/572524.htm

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Total Time
75:12



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