

Howard Blake is well known for his superbly effective film scores, and this programme brings première string quartet recordings of the award-winning music for *A Month in the Country* and the famous *Walking in the Air* theme from *The Snowman*. New discoveries emerge in the sensual and atmospheric ballet *Leda and the Swan*, and a specially revised *String Trio*. One of Britain's foremost and senior ensembles, The Edinburgh Quartet celebrated its fiftieth anniversary with the commission of Blake's dramatic *Spieltrieb*.

## Howard BLAKE

(b.1938)

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|----|--|--------------|
| 1  | <b>Spieltrieb for String Quartet, Op. 594 (2008)</b>   | <b>14:10</b> |
|    | <b>A Month in the Country, Op. 611 (2010)</b>  | <b>13:53</b> |
| 2  | 1. Idyll: Larghetto, espressivo  | 3:31         |
| 3  | 2. March: Alla marcia, tempo giusto  | 1:22         |
| 4  | 3. Elegy: Adagio   | 4:17         |
| 5  | 4. Scherzo: Scherzando   | 1:31         |
| 6  | 5. Finale: Andante espressivo  | 3:12         |
| 7  | <b>Leda and the Swan, Op. 249a (1977)</b>  | <b>9:37</b>  |
|    | <b>String Trio, Op. 199 (1975)</b>   | <b>11:41</b> |
| 8  | 1. Allegro energico  | 4:23         |
| 9  | 2. Andante doloroso  | 3:35         |
| 10 | 3. Allegro capriccioso   | 3:43         |
| 11 | <b>Walking in the Air (from <i>The Snowman Suite</i> for string quartet), Op. 615 (2010)</b> | <b>6:24</b>  |

## Edinburgh Quartet

Tristan Gurney, Violin I • Philip Burrin, Violin II  
Michael Beeston, Viola • Mark Bailey, Cello

### World Première Recordings

Publishers: Highbridge Music ([www.howardblake.com](http://www.howardblake.com)) (tracks 1-10) and  
Chester Music/Music Sales (track 11) • Booklet Note: Howard Blake

Recorded at Reid Hall, Edinburgh, Scotland, from 5th to 7th June, 2010.

Producers: Howard Blake and Michael Ponder • Engineer: Michael Ponder • Editor: Paul Golding

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8.572688

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Total Time

55:44



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