



Beauty, purity, and expressivity mark out music for upper voice choirs. On this recording, performed by one of the UK's leading vocal ensembles, the repertoire embraces classics of the genre such as Gustav Holst's sublime *Ave Maria* and his third group of *Hymns from the Rig Veda*, as well as contemporary music. James MacMillan and Sir John Tavener are represented by works that explore their unique musical language, whilst Bob Chilcott's technically demanding *The Song of the Stars* offers richly approachable pleasures.

# THE SONG OF THE STARS

## British Music for Upper Voice Choir

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|---|--|-------|----|--|------|
| 1 | Bob Chilcott (b. 1955):<br><b>The Song of the Stars (2010)*</b>                          | 4:13  | 10 | Tarik O'Regan (b. 1978):<br><b>Columba aspeixit (2001)</b>       | 3:32 |
| 2 | Paul Mealer (b. 1975):<br><b>Lux Benigna (2007)</b>                                      | 5:09  | 11 | O'Regan: <b>A Light Exists<br/>in Spring (2007)*</b>             | 4:33 |
| 3 | Gustav Holst (1874-1934):<br><b>Ave Maria, H49 (1900)</b>                                | 4:53  | 12 | O'Regan:<br><b>Alleluia, laus et gloria (2004)*</b>              | 2:19 |
|   | Holst: <b>Choral Hymns from the<br/>Rig Veda, Group 3, H99,<br/>Op. 26, No. 3 (1905)</b> | 12:56 | 13 | Cecilia McDowall (b. 1951):<br><b>Regina Caeli (2004/13)*</b>    | 2:58 |
| 4 | Hymn to the Dawn   | 3:21  | 14 | John Tavener (1944-2013):<br><b>Ikön of Saint Hilda (1998)</b>   | 9:43 |
| 5 | Hymn to the Waters   | 1:59  | 15 | Tavener:<br><b>ΘEOTOKE (Theotóke) (2001)*</b>                    | 3:06 |
| 6 | Hymn to Vena   | 5:01  | 16 | Tavener: <b>Agnus Dei<br/>(from <i>Missa Brevis</i>) (2005)*</b> | 5:03 |
| 7 | Hymn of the Travellers   | 2:35  | 17 | James Whitbourn (b. 1963):<br><b>Festival Alleluia (2010)*</b>   | 4:12 |
| 8 | James MacMillan (b. 1959):<br><b>Nova! Nova! Ave fit ex Eva (2012)*</b>                  | 5:52  |    |  |      |
| 9 | MacMillan:<br><b>New-made for a King (2012)*</b>   | 7:16  |    |  |      |

### \*WORLD PREMIÈRE RECORDINGS

Eleanor Turner, Harp 4-7 • Elliot Launn, Piano 2 9 11 17

Wells Cathedral School Choralia • Christopher Finch

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