

Edward Elgar's *Cello Concerto in E minor* is a cornerstone of the cello repertoire, a product of the composer's summer seclusion in the English countryside in 1919. A masterpiece of moods, it encompasses the world-weary and poignant but also the quicksilver and passionate. Two other cello works written at around the same time proved pivotal in their composers' careers. John Ireland's *Cello Sonata in G minor* fuses brooding, terse muscularity with lyricism and bravura, while Frank Bridge's two-movement *Cello Sonata in D minor* reflects pre-War Romanticism coupled with wartime melancholy and defiance.

ENGLISH CELLO WORKS

Sir Edward Elgar (1857–1934)

Cello Concerto in E minor,

Op. 85 (1919)

27:59

- ① I. Adagio – Moderato 7:42
- ② II. Lento – Allegro molto 4:36
- ③ III. Adagio 4:24
- ④ IV. Allegro – Moderato – Allegro, ma non troppo – Poco più lento – Adagio 11:17

John Ireland (1879–1962)

Cello Sonata in G minor (1923)

20:15

- ⑤ I. Moderato e sostenuto 9:05
- ⑥ II. Poco largamente – Quasi recitativo – 6:07
- ⑦ III. Con moto e marcato 5:03

Frank Bridge (1879–1941)

Cello Sonata in D minor,

H125 (1913–17)

23:04

- ⑧ I. Allegro ben moderato 10:34
- ⑨ II. Adagio ma non troppo – Molto allegro e agitato – Adagio ma non troppo – Allegro moderato 12:30

Sir Edward Elgar

⑩ Salut d'amour, Op. 12 (1888) 2:44

Andreas Brantelid, Cello • Bengt Forsberg, Piano ⑤–⑩

The Royal Danish Orchestra • Thomas Søndergård ①–④

Recorded: 24–25 August 2021 live at The Royal Danish Theatre, Copenhagen, Denmark ①–④;

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