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Playing Time  
60:37

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Johan Smith, 2019 winner of the prestigious Guitar Foundation of America Competition, presents his dream programme in this recital. Bach's *Tocatta* for harpsichord 'borders on the unplayable' for the guitar, especially in its final double fugue, while Manuel Ponce's *Variations on La folía de España* and *Fugue* is one of the most challenging peaks of the repertoire. Mertz's celebrated virtuosic *Concertino* is followed by Britten's *Nocturnal after John Dowland*, renowned for its blend of Elizabethan melancholy and contemporary strangeness. The recital concludes with a world premiere, the evocative *Sables Stellaires* by Josquin Schwizgebel, dedicated to Johan Smith.

## JOHAN SMITH

### Guitar Recital

**Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)**

**Tocatta in E minor, BWV 914 (c. 1710)**

(arr. Stefano Grondona, b. 1958)

8:47

① (Tocatta)

0:54

② Un poco allegro

1:56

③ Adagio

2:15

④ Fuga: Allegro

3:42

**Manuel María Ponce (1882–1948)**

⑤ **Diferencias sobre la folía de España y fuga**

(‘Variations on *La folía de España* and *Fugue*’) (1929–31)

22:45

**Johann Kaspar Mertz (1806–1856)**

⑥ **Guitar Concertino (1856)**

8:00

**Benjamin Britten (1913–1976)**

⑦ **Nocturnal after John Dowland, Op. 70 (1963)**

16:30

**Josquin Schwizgebel (b. 1984)**

⑧ **Les Reflets de l’Obscurité (‘Reflections from the Darkness’) –**

**III. Sables Stellaires (‘Stellar Sands’) (2019)\***

4:21

**\*WORLD PREMIERE RECORDING**

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