



8.574378

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Playing Time
53:59

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Edith Sitwell's invitation to William Walton to collaborate on an innovative, revolutionary new work came at a critical moment in the young composer's career, and *Façade* proved to be his first great success. The peerless combination of a peculiarly English dry wit, genuine pathos and superlative technical skill remains an extraordinary achievement. Sitwell's verses conjure a satirical and poignant world of bourgeois late-Victorian England, while Walton's settings unfailingly enhance and enrich the texts in a work in which words and music are unquestionably of equal importance.

William
WALTON
(1902–1983)

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|--------------|---|--------------|
| 1–22 | Façade – An Entertainment (1922) | 37:12 |
| 23–30 | Façade 2 – A Further Entertainment (1978–79) | 10:30 |
| 31–34 | Façade – Additional Numbers (1922, 1977) | 6:17 |

(*Texts: Edith Sitwell, 1887–1964*)

Hila Plitmann, Fred Child, Kevin Deas, Narrators
Virginia Arts Festival Chamber Players
JoAnn Falletta

A detailed track list can be found inside the booklet.

The sung texts are included in the booklet and may also be accessed at www.naxos.com/libretti/574378.htm

Recorded: 14–15 June 2021 at the Joan and Macon Brock Theatre, Susan S. Goode Fine and Performing Arts Center, Virginia Wesleyan University, Norfolk, Virginia, USA

Executive producer: Robert W. Cross • Producer and engineer: Dr Bernd Gottinger

Associate producer: Kimberly Schuette • Assistant engineer: Spencer King

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Cover painting: *Edith Sitwell* (1915) by Roger Fry (1866–1934)