

Featuring Vaughan Williams' masterly and intensely personal *Five Mystical Songs*, this album reflects on the sources of inspiration of some of his sacred choral works, alongside gems of 19th- and early-20th-century English church music. Often setting the poetry of the King James Bible, the finely spun melodies and sensitivity to word-rhythm of composers from S.S. Wesley to Herbert Howells result in a uniquely British form of expression.

FIVE MYSTICAL SONGS

- | | | | |
|--|-------------|--|--------------|
| 1 Ralph Vaughan Williams:
O clap your hands | 3:29 | 8 Vaughan Williams:
O taste and see | 1:36 |
| 2 Sir Edward Elgar / John Cameron:
Lux aeterna | 3:31 | 9 S.S. Wesley:
Blessed be the God and Father | 8:01 |
| 3 Gustav Holst: Lord, who hast
made us for thine own | 5:33 | 10 Sir Charles Villiers Stanford:
A Song of Wisdom | 5:25 |
| 4 Harold Darke: O gladsome light | 3:51 | 11 Patrick Hadley:
My beloved spake | 3:34 |
| 5 Herbert Howells:
Like as the hart | 6:28 | 12-16 Vaughan Williams:
Five Mystical Songs | 19:51 |
| 6 Elgar: Give unto the Lord | 9:23 | | |
| 7 Samuel Sebastian Wesley:
Wash me throughly | 4:51 | | |

Roderick Williams, Baritone **12-15**

Julia Smith **5 7**, **Elizabeth Limb** **8 9**,

Rachel Limb, Kate Jurka **8**, **Soprano**

Martin Ford, Organ **1 3 5-16**

Vasari Singers **1-14 16** • **Jeremy Backhouse**

A detailed track list and publishers' details can be found inside the booklet.

The sung texts are included in the booklet, and may also be accessed at www.naxos.com/libretti/574416.htm

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