

English composer William Shield was famous for his operas and pantomimes. He was admired by Haydn who was to prove a lasting influence, and rose to become Master of the King's Music despite coming from a relatively poor background. His *String Trios* from 1791 were written in Rome and mark a striking new level of compositional attainment in the English chamber music repertory of the time. Shield's scores are studied with an enlightened cosmopolitanism, encoding Spanish, Russian, Slavonic and Haydneseque elements, cast in his ingenious and lyrically attractive blend of styles.



**William  
SHIELD**  
(1748–1829)



**String Trios Nos. 1–9 (1791)**

<b>1–4</b>	<b>No. 9 in A major</b>	<b>10:19</b>
<b>5–7</b>	<b>No. 6 in B flat major</b>	<b>11:37</b>
<b>8–10</b>	<b>No. 1 in E flat major</b>	<b>8:04</b>
<b>11–13</b>	<b>No. 2 in D major</b>	<b>11:59</b>
<b>14–16</b>	<b>No. 3 in A major</b>	<b>8:07</b>
<b>17–19</b>	<b>No. 4 in E major</b>	<b>8:08</b>
<b>20–21</b>	<b>No. 5 in C minor</b>	<b>7:34</b>
<b>22–24</b>	<b>No. 7 in G major</b>	<b>7:28</b>
<b>25–27</b>	<b>No. 8 in F major</b>	<b>10:28</b>

**FIRST COMPLETE RECORDING**

**The Dorrit Ensemble**

**Elizabeth Layton, Violin**

**Caroline Henbest, Viola • Edith Salzmann, Cello**

A detailed track list can be found inside the booklet.

Recorded: 12 **8–13**, 13 **5–7** **14–21** and 14 **1–4** **22–27** August 2022

at Elder Hall, University of Adelaide, Australia

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Contact: Naxos Deutschland Musik & Video Vertriebs-GmbH, Gruber Str. 46b, DE-85586 Poing, Germany. info@naxos.de



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**DDD**

Playing Time  
**84:16**



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