



DDD

8.579127

Playing Time
65:05

www.naxos.com

Made in Germany

Booklet notes in English

© & © 2023 Naxos Rights (Europe) Ltd

The Brussels-based British composer Nigel Clarke is renowned for his virtuosic style, and an uncompromising contemporary musical language that speaks with an authentic voice to today's audiences. This world premiere recording of his symphony for violin and orchestra *The Prophecies of Merlin* is inspired by the 12th-century text *De gestis Britonum* by Geoffrey of Monmouth, and it casts the soloist as the maddened Merlin, either raging alone or caught up in the wild tumult of the orchestra. This score brims with rhythmic drive and bravura orchestration, juxtaposing savage musical outbursts with moments of sheer transcendental beauty.

RSO
ORF RADIO SYMPHONIE
ORCHESTER WIEN

Nigel
CLARKE
(b. 1960)

The Prophecies of Merlin

Symphony for Violin and Orchestra (2021)

- | | | |
|---|---------------------------------|-------|
| 1 | Tapestry I – Calidon Wood | 16:38 |
| 2 | Tapestry II – Calaterium Forest | 12:44 |
| 3 | Tapestry III – Severn Sea | 5:34 |
| 4 | Tapestry IV – Canute's Wood | 19:35 |
| 5 | Tapestry V – Daneian Forest | 10:19 |

WORLD PREMIERE RECORDING

Peter Sheppard Skærved, Violin

Alexandru Cozma, Bassoon 4

ORF Vienna Radio Symphony Orchestra

Leader: Kristina Šuklar

Neil Thomson

Recorded: 29 1 2, 30 3 4 and 31 5 August 2022 at Studio 6, ORF Funkhaus, Vienna, Austria
 Producer and editor: Erich Hofmann • Engineer: Christian Gorz • Studio assistant: Jakob Jedletzberger
 Booklet notes: Nigel Clarke • Publisher: Studio Music Company
 With special thanks to Brian and Lesley Bennett for their generous support.
 Cover: *The Prophecies of Merlin* by Peter Sheppard Skærved (b. 1966)