

Grace Williams' lifelong interest in vocal writing no doubt owed something to her upbringing in Wales. She studied with Ralph Vaughan Williams and Egon Wellesz, and spent a significant part of her life combining composition with a career in music education. The album *Grace Williams Songs*, featuring a programme of all world premiere recordings, can be found on 8.571384. The two premiere recordings heard here, *To Death* from 1953, and the folk song *Mari Lwyd* from the 1920s, are further evidence of a body of work her biographer, Malcolm Boyd, credited as being 'of the highest quality and originality'.

Grace
WILLIAMS
(1906–1977)

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|----------|---|-------------|
| 1 | Mari Lwyd ('Grey Mare') (probably 1920s)
Text: Traditional and Sir Thomas Parry (1904–1985) | 2:12 |
| 2 | To Death (1953)
Text: Caroline Southey (1786–1854) | 7:10 |



WORLD PREMIERE RECORDINGS

Jeremy Huw Williams, Baritone • Wendy Hiscocks, Piano

The sung texts and translations are included in the booklet, and may also be accessed at
www.naxos.com/libretti/70372.htm

Recorded: 28–30 September 2022 at Cooper Hall, Selwood Manor, Frome, Somerset, UK

Producer: Wendy Hiscocks • Engineer: Alastair Goolden

Editors: Wendy Hiscocks, Alastair Goolden, Jeremy Huw Williams • Booklet notes: Graeme Cotterill

This recording was made possible thanks to generous assistance from The British Music Society Charitable Trust (Charity no. 1122597; www.britishmusicsociety.co.uk) with additional funding from the Vaughan Williams Foundation (www.vaughanwilliamsfoundation.org) and the Ambache Charitable Trust.

Cover photograph: Barry, Vale of Glamorgan, South Wales, UK by Wendy Hiscocks

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