

The American critic Robert Reilly described the music on Volume One of this cycle of the complete string quartets of David Matthews (b. 1943) as 'some of the most concentrated, penetrating writing for this medium in the past 30 years or more. It is musical thinking of the highest order and quartet writing in the great tradition of Beethoven, Bartók, Britten, and Tippett'. This third CD in the series presents the first three works in the cycle – the Second influenced by The Who and Velvet Underground – together with an early contrapuntal study and the first of Matthews' arrangements for string quartet.



TOCC 0060

DAVID MATTHEWS Complete String Quartets, Volume Three

String Quartet No. 1, Op. 4

(1969–70, rev. 1980)

- 1 *Adagio* –
- 2 *Molto vivace* –
- 3 *Adagio* –
- 4 *Poco allegro: con tenerezza* –
- 5 *L'istesso tempo: con rubato e molto intenso* –
- 6 *Allegro*

23:46

6:10

1:49

4:18

4:55

4:10

2:24

String Quartet No. 2, Op. 16 (1974–76) 16:38

- 7 I *Sonata: Allegro flessibile*
- 8 II *Scherzo: Very rhythmic and strict in tempo*
- 9 III *Elegy: Lento*

3:29

4:18

8:51

String Quartet No. 3, Op. 18*

(1977–78)

- 10 I *Allegro animato* –
- 11 II *Andante tranquillo* –
- 12 III *Largo e sostenuto*

20:14

4:45

6:35

8:54

13 Mirror Canon (1963)

1:06

SCRIABIN arr. MATTHEWS

14 Prelude, Op. 74, No. 4

2:20

TT 64:09

FIRST RECORDINGS EXCEPT *

Kreutzer Quartet

Peter Sheppard Skærved and Mihailo Trandafilovski, violins;
Morgan Goff, viola; Neil Heyde, cello

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