



Charles O'Brien (1882–1968) was a mainstay of musical life in Edinburgh, but his attractive, lyrical muse has long been forgotten even there, let alone anywhere else. This third recording in a series devoted to his music reveals a composer whose lively music reflects his Scottish heritage, mixing Brahmsian grand gestures with Schumannesque intimacy.

CHARLES O'BRIEN Complete Piano Music, Volume Two

Two Rhapsodies, Op. 22 (1917–18)

1 No. 1 in E flat major 9:52

Four Waltzes, Op. 26 (1928)

2 No. 1 Tendresse 5:50

3 No. 2 Joie de Vivre 7:14

4 No. 3 Jeunesse 6:02

5 No. 4 Extase 5:48

6 *Arabesque*, Op. 11 (1906) 3:23

7 *Daffodils*, Op. 13 (1910) 2:08

Three Grandchildren Waltzes (c. 1962–63) 8:19

8 No. 1 Suzanne 2:58

9 No. 2 Un peu triste, un peu gai (David) 3:05

10 No. 3 Sans souci (Neil) 2:16

11 *Barcarolle*, Op. 8b (c. 1964–65) 5:50

Two Rhapsodies, Op. 22 (1917–18)

12 No. 2 in G minor 12:41

TT 69:07

Warren Mailley-Smith, piano

FIRST RECORDINGS

Comments on Volume One in this series:

'highly recommended. I know I will return to it for pleasure in the future'

Fanfare

'O'Brien's music owes much to the composers mentioned above [Schumann, Mendelssohn and Brahms] but it also uniquely reflects his Scottish heritage, though in a subtle, rather than full-in-the-face manner.

It is this balance that really makes it so attractive and fresh on the ear'

MusicWeb International

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