



TOCC 0457

The English composer Christopher Wright, born in Suffolk in 1954, declares that he is 'not fettered by fashion, style, ideology or gimmickry or some insatiable desire to be original'; instead, he writes music that aims to communicate directly with the listener – although it can also be thorny and challenging. This first-ever album of his sacred choral music reveals it to be in the British-cathedral tradition of composers like Benjamin Britten, William Mathias, Bernard Rose, William Walton and Malcolm Williamson: the melodic lines may on occasion be angular and the harmonies sometimes tart, but Wright's concern with immediacy of expression ensures that the 'personal prayers' embodied in these pieces can be readily understood and appreciated.

## CHRISTOPHER WRIGHT Sacred Choral Music

### *Magnificat and Nunc Dimitiss*

(1993, rev. 1993)

1 Magnificat

2 Nunc Dimitiss

### *Three Carols*

3 *Qui natus est de virgine* (1996)4 *The Eternal Star* (1998)5 *The Crown of Roses* (1975)6 *A Penitential Prayer* (2005)7 *Hymn of Salvation* (1999, rev. 2010)8 *In Memoriam* (2001)

9:44

6:42

3:02

4:07

2:30

2:17

1:52

4:16

11:55

### *Missa brevis* (2009)

9 Kyrie

10 Gloria

11 Sanctus

12 Agnus Dei

13 *The Bread of Life* (2004)14 *Thy Perfect Grace* (2016)15 *I am come into deep waters* (2016)16 *Prayer for Peace* (1983)17 *Rejoice in the Lord Alway* (2004)

13:40

1:57

4:53

4:07

2:43

4:05

3:48

4:05

1:53

6:36

TT 70:48

### *Canticum*

Julian Thomas, organ 1–2 8 14 17

Mark Forkgen, conductor

FIRST RECORDINGS

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