



TOCC 0701

Most of the chamber music of Robert Simpson (1921–97) was recorded by Hyperion in the 1980s and '90s, but there remained some gaps in that discography. The Robert Simpson Society has sponsored two albums to plug them, this first one including an early string quartet and two songs that came to light only after the composer's death. Simpson wrote his D major string quartet as a student at Durham; an examiner described it as 'fearless'. In later life Simpson used to say that poems good enough to set to music didn't need it – but these two youthful essays prove that he was already a master in his early twenties. The two mature works – vintage Simpson – bring his sense of symphonic momentum into the clarinet repertoire.

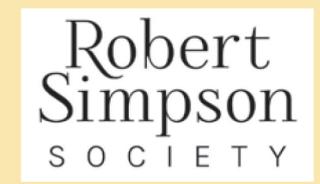
ROBERT SIMPSON Chamber Music, Volume One

String Quartet in D major (1945)	19:26	Trio for Clarinet, Cello and Piano (1967)	27:48
1 I <i>Allegro moderato</i>	4:59	7 <i>Lento molto – Allegro non troppo –</i>	10:26
2 II <i>Adagio non troppo</i>	6:18	8 ♩ = c. 72	6:58
3 III <i>Allegretto grazioso</i>	3:23	9 <i>Allegro molto e furioso</i>	10:24
4 IV <i>Presto</i>	4:46		
		Quintet for Clarinet, Bass Clarinet and Three Double Basses (1981)	18:18
Two songs		10 <i>Adagio tranquillo –</i>	6:39
5 <i>Trocknet nicht!</i> (1942)	4:12	11 <i>Allegro –</i>	7:33
6 <i>The Cherry Tree</i> (1940s)	4:19	12 <i>Adagio</i>	4:06
			TT 74:06

The Tippett Quartet 1–4
 John Mills and Jeremy Isaac, violins
 Lydia Lowndes-Northcott, viola
 Božidar Vukotić, cello
Eva-Maria Hartmann, soprano 5 6
Cornelis Witthoefft, piano 5 6
Emma Johnson, clarinet 7–9

Raphael Wallfisch, cello 7–9
John Lenehan, piano 7–9
Peter Cigleris, clarinet 10–12
Derek Hannigan, bass clarinet 10–12
Will Duerden, Levi Andreassen, Daniil Margulis, double basses 10–12

FIRST RECORDINGS



MADE IN GERMANY

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