

Best known for his inspired *Son of God Mass* for saxophone, choir and organ, the British composer, conductor and writer James Whitbourn is admired for his fresh, distinctive yet accessible compositional voice. Setting texts from ancient seers to the modern luminary Desmond Tutu, the works on his new recording reflect the breadth of the composer's achievement, from the monumental *Magnificat* written for King's College Cambridge, to the Classical Indian fusion work *Luminosity* – a rare choral work composed for dance. They are performed by Commotio, an Oxford-based chamber choir which specialises in contemporary choral repertoire.

James
WHITBOURN
(b. 1963)

Luminosity and other choral works

1 Magnificat (Collegium regale) ¹	8:11	Luminosity ¹⁰	30:31
2 Nunc Dimittis (Collegium regale) ²	4:08	10 I. John the Apostle (Lux in tenebris)	7:01
3 Alleluia jubilate ³	4:26	11 II. Ryonen (The Changing Scenes)	3:11
4 A Prayer of Desmond Tutu ⁴	1:44	12 III. Isaac of Nineveh (Silence)	3:18
5 He carried me away in the spirit ⁵	6:15	13 IV. Julian of Norwich (The Living Thing)	6:08
6 Pure river of water of life ⁶	2:43	14 V. Teresa of Avila (Castle of Diamonds)	1:21
7 Eternal Rest ⁷	3:54	15 VI. Augustine of Hippo (Ask the Beauty)	4:42
8 Of one that is so fair and bright ⁸	3:38	16 VII. Julian of Norwich (All Shall be Well)	4:53
9 There is no speech or language ⁹	3:11		

Christopher Gillett, Tenor ^{1,2} • **Levine Andrade, Viola** ¹⁰
Henry Parkes, Organ ^{1-3, 7, 10} • **Desmond Tutu, Speaker** ⁴
Andrew Ker, Percussion ^{1, 2, 4, 10} • **Steffan Jones, Percussion** ⁴ and **Tanpura** ¹⁰
Commotio • Matthew Berry

Recorded at Radley College, Oxfordshire, England, on 11th and 12th July, 2009
 Recorded, edited and mastered by David Wright • Booklet notes: Bernard Robertson
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 The sung texts for *Luminosity* can be found in the booklet, and all available texts
 can be accessed at www.naxos.com/libretti/572103.htm
 Cover image courtesy of The Hubble Heritage Team (AURA/STScI/NASA/ESA)

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Playing Time
68:44



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