

As a composer of art-song, Ian Venables is considered to be one of the most important writing today. The Songs of Ian Venables (8.572514), Volume 21 of Naxos' critically acclaimed English Song Series, was the first devoted to a living composer. This new recording introduces us to his music for solo piano and brings together works written between 1975 and 2001. It is Venables' singular melodic gift and highly inventive use of harmony that combine to give us works that range from the deeply reflective and wistful to those in a lighter vein, full of charm and joie de vivre.



Ian
VENABLES
(b. 1955)



Complete Works for Solo Piano

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|---|-------|--|-------|
| 1 Caprice, Op. 35 * | 8:37 | 9 Impromptu: 'The Nightingale and The Rose', Op. 8 * | 8:23 |
| The Stourhead Follies: Four Romantic Impressions, Op. 4 | 18:52 | 10 Portrait of Janis, Op. 9 * | 6:21 |
| 2 I. Temple to Apollo | 4:49 | Sonata (1975): In Memoriam D.S.C.H., Op. 1 * | 21:44 |
| 3 II. Palladio's Bridge | 6:38 | 11 I. Molto adagio – Allegro energico | 9:43 |
| 4 III. Pantheon | 1:44 | 12 II. Allegro scherzando | 2:17 |
| 5 IV. The Grotto | 5:41 | 13 III. Molto adagio ed espressivo | 9:44 |
| Three Short Pieces, Op. 5 | 6:11 | | |
| 6 I. Caprice | 1:16 | | |
| 7 II. Dance of the Teddy Bears | 1:08 | | |
| 8 III. Folk Tune | 3:47 | | |

Graham J. Lloyd

* World première recordings

Recorded in Wyastone Concert Hall, Monmouthshire, UK, from 23rd to 24th October, 2012
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Playing Time
70:10



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