

An English Renaissance

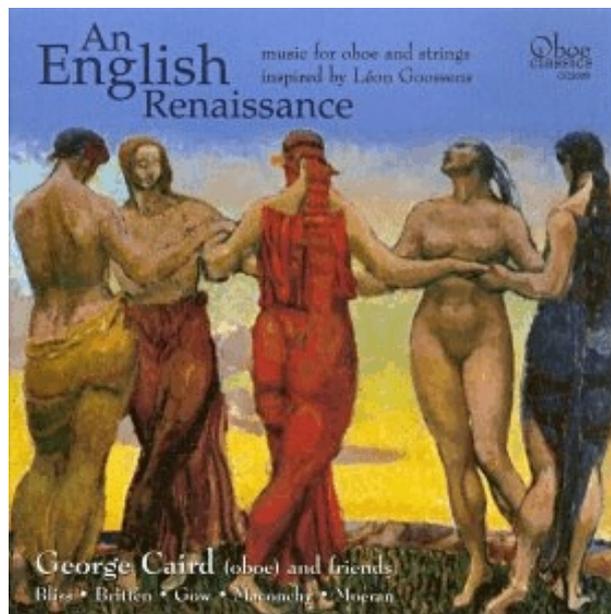
music for oboe and strings inspired by Léon Goossens

George Caird (oboe) and friends

These pieces for oboe and strings - all written for Léon Goossens or inspired by him - show a wide variety of moods, from rumbustuous energy in the *Quintet* (1926) by Arthur Bliss to English understatement in the *Fantasy Quartet* (1946) of E J Moeran.

Elizabeth Maconchy's *Quintet* (1932) shows a striking intensity, as does the re-discovered *Quintet* (1936) of Dorothy Gow.

The *Phantasy Quartet* (1933) of Benjamin Britten completes the programme, played with virtuosity and flair by George Caird and his string friends.



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The CD has a 24-page booklet with an extended essay on the repertoire in English, French and German, with many photos.

"George Caird is a splendid soloist throughout, and the string group play with a remarkably integrated and raptly communicative ensemble style, consistently conveying their deep feeling for all this music. The recording is excellently balanced."
Ivan March, Gramophone

"Let me not beat about the bush. This is one of the most important British chamber music releases for a number of years... Firstly it presents three major English chamber classics of the 20th century. Secondly it introduces two works that deserve to be seen on the same level. And last but not least this is a beautifully produced and brilliantly played recital."

*John France, Classical Music Web
[who chose this as his CD of the Year, 2006]*

"George Caird and his friends project the five works with a fresh quality which owes much to the quality of the recording ... the tone colours he coaxes from his Püchner oboe particularly suit the variety of moods in the eight sections of Moeran's *Fantasy Quartet* and the remarkably attractive *Quintet* by Dorothy Gow. This is much more than a CD for oboe addicts. The essence and quality of these pieces is exactly what the title promises. This is for music lovers of all kinds."
Denby Richards, Musical Opinion



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courtesy
Howarth
of London

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