Britten wrote his Songs and Proverbs of William Blake, Op. 74 for the German baritone Dietrich Fischer-Dieskau in 1965. The singer admired the 'concentration and enigmatic smile' of the settings, and Britten constructed, through alternation of proverbs with songs, and an intense contemplation on the human and the eternal, one of his greatest song cycles. By contrast Tit for Tat sees Britten revisiting youthful, light-spirited settings of the poet Walter de la Mare. The folk-song arrangements are amongst his most famous, and beloved.

## Benjamin **BRITTEN** (1913-1976)

Songs and Proverbs		11 Proverb VI	1:40	Folk-songs	25:50
of William Blake,		12 Ah! Sun-flower	3:11	20 The Plough Boy	1:43
Op. 74	26:03	13 Proverb VII	0:48	21 The foggy, foggy	
1 Proverb 1	1:19	14 Every night and	every	dew	2:02
2 London	2:22	morn	2:57	22 Tom Bowling	4:27
3 Proverb II	0:38	Tit for Tat	8:38	23 O Waly, Waly	3:17
4 The Chimney-			0:30	<b>24</b> Oliver Cromwell	0:43
Sweeper	2:18	15 A Song of Enchantment	2:32	25 The Ash Grove	2:23
5 Proverb III	0:49	16 Autumn	1:17	26 The Salley	
6 A Poison Tree	4:34	17 Silver	1:17	Gardens	2:28
7 Proverb IV	0:45		1:32	27 There's none to	
8 The Tyger	1:55	18 Vigil		soothe	1:39
9 Proverb V	0:50	19 Tit for Tat	1:39	28 Little Sir Willian	1 2:43
10 The Fly	1:55			29 Ca' the yowes	4:10

## Roderick Williams, Baritone • Iain Burnside, Piano

Recorded at Potton Hall, Westleton, Suffolk, 4-6 January 2011 Producer & Editor: Andrew Walton (K&A Productions Ltd.) • Engineer: Mike Clements Publishers: Faber Music (tracks 1–19); Boosey & Hawkes (20–29) • Booklet notes: Philip Lancaster Available sung texts included and accessible at www.naxos.com/libretti/572600.htm Cover image from 'Songs of Innocence and of Experience' by William Blake (1757-1827) (Fitzwilliam Museum, University of Cambridge, UK / The Bridgeman Art Library)



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