

O HOLY NIGHT

A MERTON CHRISTMAS

CHOIR OF MERTON COLLEGE, OXFORD
 OXFORD PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA
 BENJAMIN NICHOLAS

DELPHIAN

1	All bells in paradise	John Rutter	[4:59]
2	Shepherd's Pipe Carol	John Rutter	[2:52]
3	Jesus Christ the apple tree	Elizabeth Poston	[3:20]
4	Hark! the herald-angels sing	Felix Mendelssohn, arr. David Willcocks	[3:28]
5	The Shepherds' Farewell	Hector Berlioz	[4:50]
6	Unto us is born a son	trad., arr. David Willcocks	[2:17]
7	In the bleak mid-winter	Harold Darke	[4:25]
8	The Shepherd's Carol	Bob Chilcott	[3:32]
9	I sing of a maiden	Patrick Hadley	[2:25]
10	Silent night	Franz Xaver Gruber, arr. John Rutter	[3:20]
11	O holy night	Adolphe Adam, arr. John Rutter	[5:20]
12	It came upon the midnight clear	trad. English, arr. Arthur Sullivan	[2:53]
13	The Bird of Dawning*	Bob Chilcott	[3:22]
14	Away in a manger	W. J. Kirkpatrick, arr. David Willcocks	[2:27]
15	In dulci jubilo	trad. German, arr. Robert Lucas de Pearsall	[3:13]
16	What child is this?	Thomas Hewitt Jones	[4:21]
17	O come, all ye faithful	J. F. Wade, arr. David Willcocks	[4:59]
18	O magnum mysterium	Morten Lauridsen	[6:06]

Total playing time

[68:19]

*premiere recording

The Choir of Merton College joins forces with the Oxford Philharmonic Orchestra for a recording of director Benjamin Nicholas's favourite popular carols. Two of John Rutter's most exquisite works are complemented by orchestral versions of well-loved traditional fare. From the ecstatic brass fanfares that introduce *O come, all ye faithful* and *Hark! the herald-angels sing* to the intimate performances of Elizabeth Poston's beautiful *Jesus Christ the apple tree* and Morten Lauridsen's *O magnum mysterium*, Christmas old and new is celebrated with a fresh sense of all its magic and glory. The choir and orchestra loved making this recording, and it shows.

Praise for the Choir of Merton College, Oxford on Delphian:

'exquisitely sung'

— Sunday Times, December 2012



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Producer/Engineer: Paul Baxter
 24-bit digital editing: Paul Baxter
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 Design: John Christ

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