

Vive la différence

20th Century music from Britain and France

Anthony Robb (flute and piccolo) Jeremy Polmear (oboe and cor anglais)
Michael Bell (piano)

Edward Naylor, Trio (1924) (première recording): *Moderato semplice*

Gordon Jacob, Trio (1958): *Allegro - Adagio - Allegro - Allegro molto*

Frederick Delius, Two Interludes from 'Fennimore & Gerda' (1910):
Very quietly, not dragging - Very slow

Eugene Goossens, Pastorale et Arlequinade (1924): *Andante con moto - Allegro*

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Jacques Ibert, Deux Interludes (1946): *Andante espressivo - Allegro vivo*

Jean-Michel Damase: Trio (1962)

Molto moderato - Allegretto con spirito - Allegro scherzando - Moderato

Lili Boulanger, D'un Matin de Printemps (1918) (première recording in this arrangement):
Assez anime - Misterioso - Assez anime

"I am drawn to English music because it reflects the climate and the vegetation which know no sharp edges... it is a very human music, not given to shattering utterances, to human emotion in the abstract, but to a single person's experience." *Yehudi Menuhin*

"French music is clarity, elegance and simple and natural declaration; above all, French music wants to please." *Claude Debussy*

Of the British pieces in this collection, the one that most exemplifies Yehudi Menuhin's description is by **Delius**, conjuring up a pastoral nostalgia. **Eugene Goossens** begins in similar vein, but pungent harmonies and musical tension soon create a different, more unsettled world. Although written in the same year, **Edward Naylor's Trio** harks back to the church music of Stanford and Parry - he was himself an organist. **Gordon Jacob** fought in World War I, but in spite of that experience - or perhaps because of it - wrote music 'not given to shattering utterances', as Menuhin says. This *Trio* is light music of the highest calibre.

It is **Lili Boulanger** who most echoes Debussy with her bubbly, impressionistic *Matin*. **Jacques Ibert** wrote in many styles; these two pieces pay homage to the French Baroque and to Spanish Flamenco. **Jean-Michel Damase** embraces both the dark and the light of French culture to create a work of great poignancy.

*Jeremy Polmear has made many solo and chamber music recordings, often involving **Anthony Robb** who has also performed with most of the UK's major symphony orchestras. **Michael Bell's** solo repertoire includes 30 concertos.*