

In this third volume of Edward Gardner's Walton series with the BBC Symphony Orchestra, James Ehnes leaves his violin to tackle the taxing soloist role in the Viola Concerto.

In a recent *Strad* interview, Ehnes confesses: 'This is a piece I have loved since I was a teenager, so it is wonderful that the opportunity has come my way to record it... With Walton's Viola Concerto, none of the writing is impossible but a lot of it is close. And in a way that is exactly where you want it to be: on the edge of technical limitations. There's a tremendous amount of excitement in that.'

This album in surround sound also features two much later works: the 1957 Partita for Orchestra and the Sonata for String Orchestra, adapted in 1971 from the String Quartet in A minor of 1945 – 47. There is a striking contrast between the uncomfortable modernism of the up-and-coming young composer's Viola Concerto and the relaxed brilliance of the mature Partita. But the Sonata shows Walton late in his life re-engaging as an arranger with his earlier manner, and so with the characteristic vein of restless unease that runs through most of his output.

Content

Sir William Walton (1902 - 1983):

Concerto for Viola (1928 – 29, rev. 1936 – 37, 1962)*

Partita for Orchestra (1957)

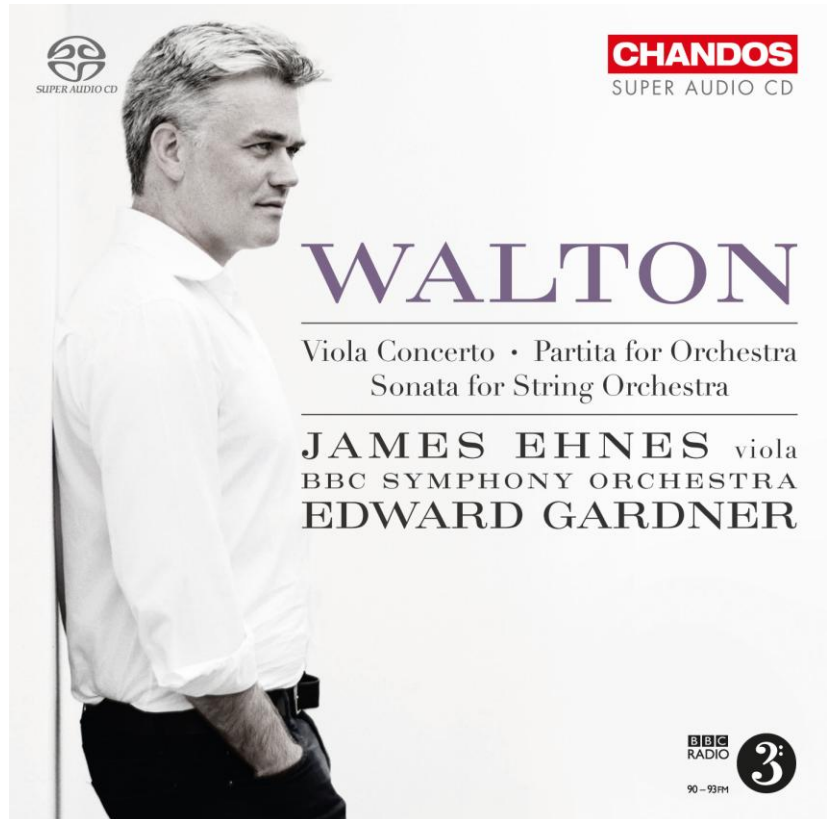
Sonata for String Orchestra (1971, after String Quartet in A minor, 1945 – 47)

Artists

James Ehnes | Viola*

BBC Symphony Orchestra

Edward Gardner



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Genre • Classical

Format • SACD



Further information | EDWARD GARDNER

- **TOURS:** Berlin (DE), Zagreb (HR), Ljubjana (SI), Bergamo & Brescia (IT), New York City (US), Apr. 2018 • Birmingham (UK), May 2018

- **OTHERS:** Super Audio CD in Surround Sound
The BBCSO will celebrate their 90th birthday throughout the 18-19 season

Also Available: Edward Gardner conducts Walton, with the BBC Symphony Orchestra



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The Financial Times

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