

**Sarah-Jane Bradley** would like to share some news about recently released recordings

The first is David Matthews' Double Concerto for Violin, Viola and Strings. David is no stranger to the viola - he wrote the viola concerto "Winter Remembered" for Sarah-Jane in 2003, based on the opening theme from Schubert's "Wintereisse". "Darkness Draws In", based on a Manx folk theme, was the 2006 test piece for the Lionel Tertis Competition. In the Double Concerto, David was inspired by Mozart's Sinfonia Concertante as well as the Song of the Nightingales in the slow movement. In his early days, David worked with Britten - today he is regarded as one of the world's finest symphonists and he is widely acclaimed for his gift in writing melodies. This recording has received numerous five star reviews across the globe for both the music and performances.

<https://www.wyastone.co.uk/david-matthews-symphony-no-9-variations-for-strings-double-concerto-for-violin-viola.html>

The second is a series of chamber music by Austrian composer Robert Furstenthal recorded by the Rossetti Ensemble:

"When Germany invaded Austria in 1938, Robert Fürstenthal, born in 1920, took the path of many Viennese Jews and fled to the United States, where he made his living as an accountant; the fact that he had written music in his youth was soon forgotten. Reconnection, after 35 years, with the woman who had been his first love rekindled both that flame and his urge to compose, and from then on songs and chamber music flowed from his pen, preserving the spirit of fin-de-siècle Vienna under the Californian sun – 'When I compose, I am back in Vienna', he explained. He died in November 2016, aged 96, knowing that his lyrical, eloquent music was at last attracting the attention of both musicians and microphones."

Furstenthal's music has been likened to Brahms, full of nostalgia and Austro-Hungarian romanticism. Volume 1 includes the Viola Sonata in D minor, op 57 and Volume 2 includes the Viola Sonata in B minor, op60a.

Here is a link to the Toccata website, where you can listen to clips:

<https://toccataclassics.com/product/robert-furstenthal-chamber-music-volume-one/>

<https://toccataclassics.com/product/robert-furstenthal-chamber-music-volume-two/>

Sarah-Jane's recording of Walton's piano quartet, with fellow professors at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama, Matthew Jones (violin), Tim Lowe (cello) and Annabel Thwaite (piano) is due for release this autumn on Naxos.