

EDITION PETERS



Errollyn
Wallen

Contemporary

Errollyn Wallen



Errollyn Wallen has been described as 'the renaissance woman of contemporary British music' (The Observer). She is respected both as a singer-songwriter of pop-influenced songs and as a composer of contemporary concert music, winning the Ivor Novello Award for Classical Music in 2013. In 2007 she was awarded an MBE in the Queen's Honours List for services to music.

Born in Belize, Wallen gave up training at the Dance Theater of Harlem, New York, to study composition in London and Cambridge and has since written music for a variety of settings, from ballet to orchestral concertos, music for piano and voice. Her classical solo album *The Girl in My Alphabet* (Avie 0006) was highly acclaimed when it was released in 2004 and features works including *Are You Worried About the Rising Cost of Funerals?*, a song cycle for soprano and string quartet, and *Dervish*, for cello and piano. *Errollyn* (Avie 0049) and *Meet Me at Harold Moores* both feature her own vocal and piano performances and Wallen's *Daedalus* also features on the Brodsky Quartet's album *Moodswings*, alongside Björk, Elvis Costello and Sting. In 2009 she contributed to the *NMC Songbook* CD. *The Errollyn Wallen Songbook* comprises twelve of her celebrated songs for voice with piano accompaniment.

Recent works include *All the People of the World* (text by Jackie Kay) for chorus, soloists and orchestra, performed by the Hallé Orchestra at Bridgewater Hall in 2008, the oratorio *Carbon 12 – A Choral Symphony* commissioned by the Welsh National Opera and premiered at the Millennium Centre, Cardiff in 2008, before touring in June 2009. She has also been commissioned by the Birmingham Contemporary Music Group (*English Folk Songs: From Eleanor to Sweet William*), Orchestra of the Swan (*Cello Concerto and Concerto Grosso*) and Almeida Opera (*The Silent Twins*). *Spirit Symphony*, commissioned by the BBC in 2004 and first performed at the Royal Festival Hall as part of the 'Listen Up!' Festival, went on to win the BBC Radio 3 Listeners Award at the 2005 British Composer Awards, and *Another America: Earth*, commissioned by the Royal Opera House in 2003, was broadcast on BBC television. *Mighty River* was premiered by the Philharmonia Orchestra in 2007 and recorded for broadcast by the BBC Symphony Orchestra in 2014.

The world premiere of *Triptych*, for solo organ, was given by Thomas Trotter in June 2012 to mark the 21st Anniversary of Symphony Hall, Birmingham. Wallen's music also featured in the opening festival for the new London venue Kings Place in Autumn 2008 and her works *Principia* and *Spirit In Motion* were commissioned for the opening ceremony of the London 2012 Paralympic Games.

Wallen was Composer-in-Association with Orchestra of the Swan for the 2006-7 season and has also held the posts of Composer-in-Residence at Dartington International Music Festival, Huddersfield Festival and Trinity College of Music, visiting Composer-in-Residence at Birmingham Conservatoire and Research Associate at Middlesex University's ResCen, contributing to the book *Navigating the Unknown: The creative process in contemporary performing arts*, published in 2006.

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Solo Instrumental

Birthday Portmanteau (2007) 3 minutes

For Guitar

Commissioned by the International Guitar Foundation (IGF) to celebrate Howard Skempton's 60th birthday
First performed 5 May 2007, International Guitar Festival, Southbank Centre, London, by Tom Kerstens
EP 7994

Canciones (2008) 10 minutes

For Guitar

Commissioned by Tom Kerstens for the International Guitar Foundation (IGF)
First performed 13 July 2008, Wigmore Hall, London, by Tom Kerstens
EP 71733

I Wouldn't Normally Say (2004) 5 minutes

Salsa for Piano solo

Recorded on *Errollyn* (Avie AV 0049) and on Elena Riu's *Salsa Nueva* (Somm records 237)

Commissioned by Elena Riu

Also available in Elena Riu's *Salsa Nueva* book published by Boosey & Hawkes
EP 7734

In My Lady's Chamber (2006) 3 minutes

For Toy Piano and Spinnet

Commissioned by Isabel Ettenauer and Goska Isphording

First performed 9 November, as part of the BMIC Cutting Edge Series at The Warehouse, London
EP 7897

Louis' Loops (1999) 4 minutes

Toy Piano (Piano or Harpsichord)

Recorded on *The Girl in My Alphabet* (Avie AV 0006) and piano version on *Errollyn* (Avie AV 0049)

Commissioned by Other Minds Festival, San Francisco and dedicated to the composer's godson, Louis Wallen

First performed 25 March 1999, Other Minds Festival, Cowell Theater, Fort Mason Center, San Francisco, by Margaret Leng Tan
EP 7691

The Girl in My Alphabet (1990) 10 minutes

2 pianos (4 or 8 hands)

Recorded on *The Girl in My Alphabet* (Avie AV 0006)

Commissioned by Nanquidno

First performed 1990, Purcell Room, Southbank Centre, London, by Nanquidno
EP 7685 (4 hands), EP 72202 (8 hands)

Triptych (2012) 7 minutes

Organ solo

Commissioned by Symphony Hall Birmingham as part of the Hall's 21st Anniversary Celebrations

First performed 13 June 2012, Symphony Hall, Birmingham, by Thomas Trotter
EP 72286

Walking Me To Work (2002) 2 minutes

Guitar

Recorded on *The Music of Dance – New Horizons in Guitar Performance* (BGS CD109)

Commissioned by Bath International Guitar Festival

First performed July 2002, Bath International Guitar Festival, by Tom Kerstens
EP 7728

Chamber

All the Blues I See (2004) 20 minutes

Flute and String Quartet

Commissioned by BBC Radio 3 for Emily Beynon and the Brodsky Quartet

First performed 4 March 2004, St George's Bristol, by Emily Beynon and the Brodsky Quartet

EP 7733

Another America: Air (2009)

Solo tenor and piano

EP 71924

At the Ending of a Year (2005) 6 minutes

Two Horns and Piano

Commissioned by and written for Thomas Bacon and James Graber

First performed 22 May 2005, 'Music of Today' concert series, First Cumberland Presbyterian Church, Houston, Texas, by Thomas Bacom and James Graber (horns) with Rodolfo Morales (piano)

EP 7792

Dervish (2001) 6 minutes

Cello and Piano

Recorded on *The Girl in My Alphabet* (Avie AV 0006)

Commissioned by Matthew Sharp, Dominic Harlan and dedicated to the composer Jonathan Lloyd

First performed 29 June 2001, Wigmore Hall, by Matthew Sharp (cello), Dominic Harlan (piano)

EP 7682

Flick (2003) 5 minutes

3 Tenor Recorders, Marimba, Harpsichord and Cello

Commissioned by Apsara

First performed 1 June 2003, Concertgebouw, Bruges, Belgium, by the Apsara ensemble

EP 7757

Music for Tigers (2006) 12 minutes

For 2 Violins, Viola, Violoncello and Piano

Commissioned by the Schubert Ensemble with funds provided by the Schubert Ensemble Trust and the Steel Foundation

First performed 19 October 2006, Goldsmith's Hall, by the Schubert Ensemble and City Music Society

EP 7891

Romeo Turn (1999) 14 minutes

Viola, Cello and Double Bass

Commissioned by David Hopkins for the Adderbury Ensemble

First performed February 2000, St Mary's Church, Kidlington, by the Adderbury Ensemble - Jane Atkins (Viola),

Jane Fenton (Cello) and Andrew Davies (Double Bass)

EP 7729

Skip (2005)

For Clarinet and Piano

Commissioned for and published in Spectrum for Clarinet, edited by Ian Mitchell for ABRSM Publishing

EP 7798

The Girl in My Alphabet 10 minutes

Version for Chamber Orchestra

1(Picc).1(Ca).1.1—2.2.1.1—Timp—3Perc—Hp—Pf—Str

First performed 24 July 2010, Miller Theater, Columbia University, New York, American Composers

Orchestra, conducted by Gil Rose

EP 72073

Large Ensemble / Orchestra

Carbon 12: A Choral Symphony (2008) 45 minutes

An oratorio about the history of mining in Wales

For Narrator, Choir, Community Choir and Orchestra

Libretto: John Binias

Commissioned by Welsh National Opera WNO Max

First performed June 2009, Welsh Millennium Centre Cardiff and subsequently on tour.

Cello Concerto (2007) 15 minutes

Cello and String Orchestra

Commissioned by the Orchestra of the Swan

First performed 26 January 2008, Wiltshire Music Centre, by Matthew Sharp, Orchestra of the Swan, David Curtis (conductor)

EP 71038

Concerto for Percussion and Orchestra (1994) 20 minutes

Perc Solo—2(II=Picc).2(II=Ca).2.2(II=Cbsn)-2.2.2.2.B-tbn-Timp-Str(8.6.4.4.2)

Commissioned by the BBC for the Young Musician of the Year Award 1994

First performed at the finals of the BBC Young Musician of the Year 1994, by Colin Currie (percussion), National Youth Orchestra of Great Britain, conducted by Paul Daniel

EP 7964

Concerto Grosso (2008) 10 minutes

Pf.Vln.Db soli—Str

Commissioned by Orchestra of the Swan

First performed 4 June 2008, by Orchestra of the Swan, David Curtis (conductor)

EP 71757

English Folk Songs: From Eleanor to Sweet William (2008)

12 minutes

For Voice and Instrumental Ensemble (Flute, Clarinet, 2 Percussion, Harp, Viola and Violoncello)

Text: Wesley Stace

Commissioned by the Birmingham Contemporary Music Group

First performed 30 January 2009, Schools' Concerts, CBSO Centre, by Birmingham Contemporary Music Group, conducted by Peter Wiegold

EP 71814

Gold Saturday (2004) 10 minutes

For several Brass Bands including Bollywood Brass Band

Commissioned by the National Youth Brass Band of Great Britain

First performed 1 May 2004, Bridgewater Hall, by the National Youth Brass Band of Great Britain and various bands including Bollywood Brass, conducted by Elgar Howarth

EP 7736

Horseplay (1998) 22 minutes

Flute/Piccolo, Clarinet, Bass Clarinet, Soprano Saxophone, Horn, Percussion (2 players), Piano/Celesta, 2 Violins, Viola, Cello, Double Bass

Recorded on *The Girl in My Alphabet* (Avie AV 0006)

Commissioned by Tom Sapsford for The Royal Ballet and dedicated to Judy Theophanous

First performed 1998, Theatre Royal, Sheffield, by The Royal Ballet, choreographed by Tom Sapsford

EP 7683

Hunger (1996) 25 minutes

1(with Picc).1.1.1 – 2.1.1.0 – Percussion, Str(3.0.3.2.2)

Commissioned by the Continuum Ensemble, in memoriam Rory Allam

First performed April 1996, Regent Hall, London, by The Continuum Ensemble, conducted by Philip Headlam

EP 7684

Mighty River (2007) 16 minutes

2(Picc).2.2.2—4.2.2.B-tbn.0—Timp—Perc—Hp—Str(6.6.4.4.2)

Performance material available on hire

Commissioned by the Rector and PPC of Holy Trinity Clapham Common and the Revd. John Wates

First performed 24 February 2007, Holy Trinity Church, Clapham, to commemorate the Bicentenary of the

Abolition of the Slave Trade Act passed by British Parliament on 25 March 1807, by The Philharmonia Orchestra, conducted by Martyn Brabbins

EP 7978

Photography (2006) 15 minutes

For string orchestra

Commissioned by the Orchestra of the Swan for their 10th anniversary, generously funded by the Arts Council of England

First performed 20 March 2006, Civic Hall, Stratford upon Avon, by The Orchestra of the Swan, David Curtis (conductor)

EP 7828

Spirit Symphony — Speed-Dating for Two Orchestras (2004) 20 minutes

Orchestra I: 2(2=Picc).2.2.2—2.3.2.B-tbn.1—Timp—4Perc—Hp—Str(10.8.6.6.4)

Orchestra II: 2(2=Picc).Picc.2.2.2—2.2.2.B-tbn.0—Str(10.8.6.6.4)

Commissioned by BBC Radio 3

First performed 5 November 2004, at the final event of the 'Listen Up! Festival of Orchestras 2004', Royal Festival Hall, by BBC Concert Orchestra and Kensington Symphony Orchestra conducted by Russell Keable

Winner of the BBC Radio 3 Listeners Award at the British Composer Awards 2005

EP 7759

Spirit Symphony (2004/2007) 20 minutes

Version for one Orchestra

2(2=Picc).2.2.2—4.3.2.B-tbn.1—Timp—2Perc—Hp—Str(10.8.6.6.4)

Arranged by Maud Hodson

Performance material available on hire

Commissioned by Leipzig Ballet

First performed 14 April 2007, as part of the ballet 'Tempest' choreographed by James Bailey for Leipzig Ballet, by the Gewandhausorchester Leipzig, conducted by Lorenzo Ramos

EP 7974

Vocal**Are You Worried About the Rising Cost of Funerals?** (1994) 19 minutes

(Five Simple Songs)

Beehive – Mary – White Christine – Guru – End of My Days

Soprano, 2 Violins, Viola, Cello

*Text: Errollyn Wallen*Recorded on *The Girl in My Alphabet* (Avie AV 0006)

Commissioned by Birmingham Contemporary Music Group

First performed 20 March 1994, Adrian Boult Hall, Birmingham, by Sarah Leonard, BCMG String Quartet

EP 7692

Comfort Me with Apples (2006) 7 minutes

S.B Soli—Oboe d'amore—Organ—String Quartet

Words from the 'Song of Songs'

Commissioned by the Dunedin Consort

First performed 22 September 2006, Queen's Hall, Edinburgh, by Susan Hamilton (soprano), Matthew Brook (bass) and the Dunedin Consort

EP 7893

Daedalus (2003) 8 minutes

Arranged for Mezzo-Soprano and String Quartet

*Text: Errollyn Wallen*Recorded on *Moodswings — The Brodsky Quartet and Errollyn Wallen* (Brodsky Records BRD 23501)

Commissioned by the Brodsky Quartet for the Brodsky Song Show Tour 2003

EP 7727

Fairy Scary (2005) 20 minutes

Forest — Frog — Fish — Wolf — Happy Ever Afters

For Voice, Clarinet, Bass Clarinet, Trumpet, Tuba, Viola, Violoncello, Cymbals and Piano

Song settings of fairy stories

Text: Errollyn Wallen

Commissioned by Wigmore Hall Community and Education

First performed 29 November 2005, Wigmore Hall, London

EP 7827

My Lazy Goodheart (1994) 6 minutes

A parlour ballad — Song for Voice and Piano

Text: Kate Westbrook

Recorded on *Cuff Clout* — *Kate Westbrook & The Skirmishers* (Voiceprint VP310CD)

Commissioned by Kate Westbrook

EP 7739

New Century (2004) 5 minutes

Song for Voice and Piano

Text: Errollyn Wallen

Commissioned by Youth Music for their Singbook Project

EP 7749

Pau al mon (Peace on Earth)

Catalan version

Unison voices and piano

EP 71971a

Peace on Earth

Unison voices and piano

EP 71971

Songs

What's Up Doc? • Guru • What Shall I Sing? • Meet Me at Harold Moores • Rain • Happy and New • The Lighthouse • Don't Panic • Bridge of Sighs • Jordan Town • Psalm • Hurricane of Love • My Feet May Take a Little While • North • Jesus on a Train • When I Am Laid in Earth (arr. of Purcell) • London's Burning • Hudson, Mississippi, Thames • About Here • Off the Map

The Errollyn Wallen Songbook

What's up Doc? • Guru • Beehive • North • Rain •

What Shall I Sing? • London's Burning • Jesus on a Train •

Happy and New • Daedalus • My Feet May Take a Little While •

Peace on Earth

EP 7888

Choral**I am a Story in Sound (The Bubble Wrap Song)** (2008) 2 minutes

For Young Voices a cappella

Text: Errollyn Wallen

Commissioned by the Birmingham Contemporary Music Group

First performed in Spring 2009

Our English Heart (2005) 35 minutes

For Soprano Solo, Male Chorus and Orchestra

Text: Errollyn Wallen

S Solo — T.B Chorus — 2(II=Picc).2(2=Ca).2Bb(2=B-cl).2(2=Cbsn)-4.2.1.B-tbn.1-3Perc-Timp-Hp-Str

Commissioned by BBC Radio 3 and George and Janette Wilkins

First performed 21 October 2005, Portsmouth Cathedral, by the BBC Concert Orchestra, men's voices of the BBC Singers and Catherine Bott (soprano), conducted by Stephen Cleobury to mark the 200th anniversary of Trafalgar Day and the death of Admiral Lord Nelson.

EP 7812

When the Wet Wind Sings (2003) 10 minutes

40 Voices

Text: Various including Cicero, Ovid, Elizabeth I and Errollyn Wallen

Commissioned by the Greenwich and Docklands Festival and dedicated to Anda and Bill Winters

First performed 9 July 2003, Greenwich and Docklands Festival, by The Tallis Scholars

EP 7705

Opera**Another America: Earth** (2003) 20 minutes

Opera

Libretto by Errollyn Wallen

2 S.Mez.2T.Bar Soli—1.0.0.1—1.1.1.0—2Perc—ElecBassGtr—Str(1.0.0.3.0)

Commissioned by the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden and Nitro

First performed 9 November 2003, Linbury Studio Theatre, Royal Opera House, London

EP 7717

Another America: Fire (2004) 45 minutes

Opera

Libretto by Errollyn Wallen

2S.2Mez.T.Bar.South African Singer Soli—SATB Chorus—1.0.1.1—1.1.1.0

Perc—Pf—ElecBassGtr—Hp—Str(3.2.2.1)

Commissioned by Push

First performed 16 September 2004, Sadler's Wells, London

EP 7756

Cautionary Tales (2011) c. 50 minutes

Chamber Opera

Libretto by Hilaire Belloc

SATB Soli – Pf – Double Bass/Fretless Bass Guitar/Electric Guitar; Percussion

Commissioned by Opera North

First performed 10 March 2011, Howard Assembly Room, The Leeds Grand Theatre

EP 72119, EP 72237 (reduced touring version)

Clothesburger (2010)

Opera for children

Children's chorus, children and adult soloists, piano

Words by Errollyn Wallen and 420 primary School children

Commissioned by Pegasus Opera Company with funds from Sing Up, The Michael Tippett Musical Foundation, Ernest Cook Trust

First performed 23 March 2010, Clore Ballroom, Southbank Centre, by children from primary schools in Lambeth, Southwark and Ealing and workshop leaders Denise K Christie, Herve Goffings, Alison Nicholls, Hyacinth Nicholls, Aga Serugo-Lugo, Robine Landi, Fiona Thomas, narrated and directed by Frances M Lynch with David Keefe on piano

EP 72051

The Silent Twins (2007) 80 minutes

Chamber Opera

Libretto: April de Angelis based on the book by Marjorie Wallace

3S.Mez.T.Bar.B-Bar—Fl.Cl(B-cl)—Perc—Pf(Kybd)—Vln.Vla.Vc.Db(ElecBassGtr/Gtr)

Commissioned by Almeida Opera

First performed 5 July 2007, Almeida Opera, London

EP 7936

YES (2011) c. 60 minutes*Libretto by Bonnie Greer*

Cast of 8 singers and an ensemble of 6 musicians

Commissioned by the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden.

First performed 22–26 November 2011, Linbury Theatre, Royal Opera House, London

EP 72217



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