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Thomas Adès: The Twenty-fifth Hour — review

Richard Fairman

The Calder Quartet and the composer perform three of his works: music for the intellect as well as the imagination

Thomas Adès

The Twenty-fifth Hour

Calder Quartet

(Signum Classics)

Is this music for the intellect or the imagination?

Part of the fascination of Thomas Adès's chamber music is that it intrigues the mind with its science, while transporting the listener to imaginary places.

The *Piano Quintet*, with Adès himself at the piano, weaves playful musical formulae. *The Four Quartets* of 2011, getting its first recording, searches deeper into the emotions.

Arcadiana, a spellbinding early Adès classic, offers a series of ingenious and alluring snapshots.

The Calder Quartet perform all three with energy and sensitivity. Highly recommended.



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