

Debbie Wiseman

Debbie Wiseman · Celebrities

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Works arr. solo piano (Ten – Memories for Solo Piano)

Debbie Wiseman (piano)

Silva Screen SILCD1810 36:19 mins
Composer Debbie Wiseman has spent 10 years as Classic FM's Composer in Residence.

She and Silva Screen Records now present the album *Ten*, a set of themes for solo piano that encapsulate her multifaceted career achievements during her time at the popular UK classical station.

Wiseman has carefully curated a selection of her live works for

Royal occasions, her compositions for *Wolf Hall* sequel *The Mirror* and the *Light* and her longstanding collaborations with Stephen Fry and Alan Titchmarsh, among others. A resonant sense of Englishness reson-



ates throughout: the spirit of Vaughan Williams and Elgar pervades the album, an approach that has also informed Wiseman's acclaimed film scores such as *Wilde*.

Highlights include the pensive 'Man of Sorrows' theme from

Wolf Hall, and the regal phrasing of *Elizabeth Remembered*, which commemorates the late Queen. *Alleluia* (O Clap Your Hands) is a more celebratory piece for the coronation of King Charles III.

The melancholic phrasing of *The Falling Leaves of Autumn* is superbly evocative, as is the deeply poignant, Covid-composed *Together*, which

Classic FM listeners were invited to interpret in their own fashion. The best is saved until last: the VE Day 80 anthem *A Day May Come* with a powerfully sonorous choral performance from VOCES8.

Ten epitomises why Wiseman is held in such high regard: her penchant for gorgeous chromatic expressiveness and a firm dedication to sumptuous melody makes her one of the UK's finest contemporary composers.

Sean Wilson ★★★★★