

CONTEMPORARY ENGLISH LITERATURE

Volume 1: Poetry, read by the Poets:

Robert Graves, Elizabeth Jennings, Edith Sitwell, C. Day Lewis

Folkways Records FL 9888

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COVER DESIGN BY RONALD CLYNE

DESCRIPTIVE NOTES ARE INSIDE POCKET

CONTEMPORARY ENGLISH LITERATURE

Folkways Records FL 9888

(Issued by special arrangement with Jupiter Records, Ltd., London)

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Vol. 1: POETRY

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ROBERT GRAVES

Born in 1895, educated at Charterhouse and St. John's College, Oxford, Robert Graves served in France during the 1914 war, and after a life divided between Wales, America, France, Egypt, Switzerland and Spain, now lives in Majorca. Author of *Goodbye to All That* (1929) and *I, Claudius* (1934), translator of Suetonius, Lucan, Georges Sand, student of classical myth and classical history, and great in argument about both, Robert Graves has made his greatest reputation as a poet. In 1926, 1938, 1947, and 1959 he published collected editions of his poems, and on each occasion

suppressed all that no longer passed his criticism. As a result the 1959 collection is not much bigger than the *Collected Poems* of 1926. The poems on this record are all taken from *Collected Poems*, 1959 (published by Cassell) with the exception of *Mike and Mandy*, which is in *Steps*, a miscellany of verse and prose by Robert Graves, published by Cassell in 1958.



ELIZABETH JENNINGS

Elizabeth Jennings has published three books of poetry—*Poems* (1953), *A Way of Looking* (1955) and *A Sense of the World* (1958). For the first she won The Arts Council Award for 1953, for the second the Somerset Maugham Award for 1956. Like many 19th century poets, Elizabeth Jennings has been deeply influenced by her visits to Italy. Many of the poems in her last book are on Italian subjects, and three of these are included on this disc.

It is particularly right that the poems of Elizabeth Jennings should be read by herself, for they are essentially contemplative—not so much poems about things as poems about their author meditating upon those things. (How often she writes in the first person). The listener stands beside her in San Paolo, or by the Fountain, as she unfolds her thoughts, the manner careful, disciplined, the matter thrilling and new.



I'm through with you forever

In the Wilderness

The Troll's Nosegay

Mike and Mandy

Traveller's Curse

Song: Lift Boy

In the Night

On a Child Born Dead

The Shot

In a Foreign City

San Paolo Fuori Le Mura,
Rome

Fountain

The recordings were directed by V. C. CLINTON-BADDELEY

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EDITH SITWELL

In 1957 Dame Edith Sitwell, in the preface to her *Collected Poems*, explained how, at the time when she began to write, it had been necessary to make a break from the deadness and the familiar patterns of some of the poetry of the preceding period. From the beginning Dame Edith has devoted herself to the resuscitation and the new discovery of rhythmic shapes, and by her reading she is able to bring to the listener something more than he will find on the printed page, for this poetry is like music—written to be heard: indeed it must be heard to be fully enjoyed.

The first three poems were written after 1940. The last, "Scotch Rhapsody", is from that famous early work *Façade*—an experiment in speed and rhythm, pattern in sound.

Dame Edith has received Honorary Doctor's degrees from four English universities. She was created D.B.E. in 1954.

These poems are taken from "Collected Poems" by Edith Sitwell, published by Macmillan & Co. Ltd. The recording of "Scotch Rhapsody" was previously published in "The Jupiter Anthology 20th Century English Poetry: Part I".

Lullaby

Dirge for the New Sunrise

Heart and Mind

Scotch Rhapsody

C. DAY LEWIS

Born in 1904, C. Day Lewis spent his early years in Ireland. He was educated at Sherborne School and Wadham College, Oxford, and was for a few years a schoolmaster. His first book of verse was published in 1925, while he was still at Oxford.

Besides his many books of poetry he has translated the *Georgics* and the *Aeneid* of Virgil; written works of criticism, novels and books for children; and under the name of Nicholas Blake has won a second reputation as a writer of detective fiction. He is also a director of the publishing house of Chatto and Windus.

In 1950 Mr. Day Lewis was created C.B.E. From 1951 to 1956 he was Professor of Poetry at Oxford University.

Although published in the American edition of Mr. Day Lewis's last book, *Pegasus*, the poems on this disc have not yet been printed in book form in England.

Sheep Dog Trials

View from an upper window

The Gate

Additional Jupiter Recordings from Folkways Records

FL9886 ANTHOLOGY OF 20TH CENTURY ENGLISH POETRY; 35 contemporary English poems by Thomas Hardy, Robert Bridges, A. E. Housman, W. B. Yeats, Rudyard Kipling, W. H. Davies, Walter de la Mare, John Masefield, Edward Thomas, D. H. Lawrence, James Joyce, Roy Flecker, Andrew Young, Siegfried Sassoon, Edwin Muir, Edith Sitwell; read by Jill Balcon, V. C. Clinton-Baddeley, John Glen, Christopher Hassall, Carleton Hobbs, C. Day Lewis, Stephen Murray and Edith Sitwell reading her own poetry. Released by special arrangement with Jupiter Recordings Ltd. (England). 1-12" 33-1/3 rpm longplay record

FL9887 ANTHOLOGY OF 20th CENTURY ENGLISH POETRY, part II; readings from the poems of T. S. Eliot, W. J. Turner, Gerard Church, Wilfred Owen, Robert Graves, Edmund Blunden, C. Day Lewis, John Betjeman, W. H. Auden, Vernon Watkins, Louis MacNeice, Stephen Spender, W. R. Rodgers, Roy Fuller, George Barker, Dylan Thomas, Lawrence Sanders, Henry Reed, Laurie Lee, Sidney Colman; read by Jill Balcon, Pauline Balcon, V. C. Clinton-Baddeley, John Glen, Christopher Hassall, Carleton Hobbs, and reading their own poetry, Gerard Church, C. Day Lewis, John Masefield, Vernon Watkins, W. R. Rodgers,

Roy Fuller, Henry Reed and Laurie Lee. (Released by special arrangement with Jupiter Records, Ltd., London, England) 1-12" 33-1/3 rpm longplay record

FL9891 ANTHOLOGY OF ENGLISH VERSE, Vol. 1; poetry of Thomas Love Peacock, John Clare, John Masefield, Lord Tennyson, Walter de la Mare, James Stephens, William Wordsworth, W. S. Gilbert, William Blake, John Keats, Edward Lear, Rudyard Kipling, Ralph Hodgson, Thomas Hardy, W. B. Yeats, A. E. Housman; read by Jill Balcon, V. C. Clinton-Baddeley, John Glen, Christopher Hassall, Harry Hutchinson and C. Day Lewis. (Issued by special arrangement with Jupiter Records Ltd., London). 1-12" 33-1/3 rpm longplay....\$5.95

FL9892 ANTHOLOGY OF ENGLISH VERSE, Vol. 2; poetry of W. H. Auden, Lewis Carroll, Robert Herrick, William Wordsworth, Sir Walter Scott, Walter de la Mare, Lord Tennyson, Percy Bysshe Shelley, Robert Browning, Hilaire Belloc, Edmund Blunden, Robert Graves, John Fletcher; read by Lally Bowers, Pauline Letts, V. C. Clinton-Baddeley, Carleton Hobbs, Michael Hordern, John Laurie, C. Day Lewis. (Issued by special arrangement with Jupiter Records, Ltd., London.) 1-12" 33-1/3 rpm longplay

FL9893 CHRISTIAN POETRY AND PROSE selected and read in English by ALEC GUINNESS; Revelations of Divine Love (Julian of Norwich), How Many Heavens (Edith Sitwell), Journey of the Magi (T. S. Eliot), Not Only Death (Hilaire Belloc), Christmas (John Betjeman), The Night (Henry Vaughan), Parables (Christopher Smart), Lines from the Gospel According to Thomas, Letter to St. Jeanne Frances de Chantal (St. Francois de Sales), To St. Teresa (Richard Crashaw), I Sing of a Maiden, Cherry Tree Carol, The Apocrypha (Chapter XV). Released by special arrangement with Jupiter Records Ltd., London. 1-12" 33-1/3 rpm longplay record