FLOWER OF BEAUTY
Westminster Choir / Joe Miller (dir)
Westminster Choir College (Rider University) WCC 0909 [60:39]

★★★★
The programme for these young voices has been well thought out, consisting of an eclectic group of composers that range across the centuries; there isn't one jarring note to be found in this choice of sacred and secular repertoire. It includes Miskinis's ethereal setting of *Lucis creator optime*, which displays the excellent musicianship of the singers. The counterpoint of Byrd, Josquin and Weelkes is performed with flowing clarity, contrasting with the precise interpretation of Moses Hogan's arrangement of *Great Day* – you can actually imagine feet marching up and down. Tormis's arrangement of *Laevas Lauldakse* is masterly, with harmony and counterpoint weaving around the simple folk tune. Rud Tas's *Miserere* setting is unusual with its eloquent cello part. It's altogether very enjoyable.

SHIRLEY RATCLIFFE