

THE SUNDAY TIMES

ELGAR

★★★

Violin Concerto et al

**Tasmin Little, Royal Scottish
National Orchestra, cond Davis**

Chandos CHSA5083



A recording of Elgar's grandiose "symphonic" concerto — 100 years old earlier this month — has been long overdue from Little, who has been playing it around the country and the world for the best part of her career. This may have been a bumper year for this work, with recordings by Nikolaj Znaider, Gil Shaham and James Ehnes, but Little brings a profoundly idiomatic nostalgia to this secretive, yearning, wistful yet passionate music. The extras make it an Elgarian must-have: a cadenza with a lost harp part transcribed from the composer's 1916 recording by the harpist Gwawr Owen, the Interlude with violin solo from *The Crown of India*, and a rollicking account of Elgar's tribute to the Poles, *Polonia*, from Andrew Davis's RSNO. **HC**