

8.111048

Holst • Vaughan Williams

NAXOS Historical



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ADD

# HOLST • VAUGHAN WILLIAMS

## The Composers Conduct

Playing  
Time  
75:42

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|---|---|
| <b>HOLST: The Planets, Op. 32</b> 42:35   |   |
| 1   | Mars, the Bringer of War 6:12                 |
| 2   | Venus, the Bringer of Peace 7:19              |
| 3   | Mercury, the Winged Messenger 3:33            |
| 4   | Jupiter, the Bringer of Jollity 7:02          |
| 5   | Saturn, the Bringer of Old Age 6:58           |
| 6   | Uranus, the Magician 5:57                     |
| 7   | Neptune, the Mystic 5:35                      |
| London Symphony Orchestra • Gustav Holst<br>Recorded in 1926, Columbia's Large Studio, Petty France, London |   |
| 8 <b>HOLST: Marching Song, Op. 22, No. 2</b> 3:16   |   |
| London Symphony Orchestra • Gustav Holst<br>Recorded in 1926, Columbia's Large Studio, Petty France, London |   |
| <b>VAUGHAN WILLIAMS: Symphony No. 4 in F minor</b> 29:51  |   |
| 9   | Allegro 8:10                                  |
| 10  | Andante moderato 8:41                         |
| 11  | Scherzo: Allegro molto 5:02                   |
| 12  | Finale con epilogo fugato: Allegro molto 7:57 |
| BBC Symphony Orchestra • Ralph Vaughan Williams<br>Recorded in 1937, EMI Abbey Road Studio No. 1, London    |   |

Although neither composer could claim to be a natural-born conductor, these landmark recordings of Holst's *The Planets* and Vaughan Williams's *Symphony No. 4* offer undimmed and thrilling recorded testaments. Holst's way with *The Planets* is notably direct and swift of tempo. The resulting freshness and energy, together with a refusal to linger or indulge the music, are striking by comparison with many slower, present day performances. One of only a handful of commercial recordings with Vaughan Williams at the helm, this galvanising 1937 performance of his *Symphony No. 4* unleashes a visceral force unmatched by later recordings of the work.

Producer and Audio Restoration Engineer: Mark Obert-Thorn  
A detailed tracklist can be found in the booklet.

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Cover Photograph: Gustav Holst (The Tully Potter Collection)



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