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YAMADA: Symphony in F major 'Triumph and Peace'

NAXOS

Kôşcak Yamada was one of the great pioneers of 20th century Japanese music, who played a defining rôle in helping Western music take root in Japan. During his studies in Berlin with, among others, Max Bruch, Yamada composed the first-ever work for a western orchestra, the *Overture in D major*, and the first-ever symphony, '*Triumph and Peace*', by a Japanese composer. Dating from 1912 and written along traditional classical lines, both works show Yamada's indebtedness to Mozart, Beethoven, Schubert, Mendelssohn, Brahms and Dvořák. One year later, in a completely different vein, Yamada composed the two symphonic poems *The Dark Gate* and *Madara No Hana* which, while absorbing the influence of Richard Strauss, Debussy and Scriabin, were written freely with no restraints imposed by his teachers. It is possible to hear in these two works a prototype of Japanese composition which was eventually to lead to the music of Toru Takemitsu.

**Kôşcak
YAMADA**
(1886-1965)

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|---|---|--------------|
| 1 | Overture in D major* (1912) | 3:32 |
| | Symphony in F major 'Triumph and Peace' (1912) | 36:16 |
| 2 | Moderato | 8:46 |
| 3 | Adagio non tanto e poco marciale | 11:22 |
| 4 | Poco vivace | 5:48 |
| 5 | Adagio molto - Molto allegro e trionfante | 10:21 |
| 6 | Symphonic Poem 'The Dark Gate' (1913) | 10:53 |
| 7 | Symphonic Poem 'Madara No Hana' (1913) | 7:40 |

**Ulster Orchestra • New Zealand Symphony Orchestra*
Takuo Yuasa**

Track 1 - World Première Recording
Recorded at Wellington Town Hall, Wellington, New Zealand, 30th January 2002 (track 1);
Ulster Hall, Belfast, Northern Ireland, 7th-8th June 2001 (tracks 2-5);
16th-17th September 2000 (tracks 6 and 7)
Producer: Andrew Walton (K&A Productions Ltd.) • Engineer: Eleanor Thomason
Post-Production: Emma Stocker and Andrew Walton
Artistic Advisor & Booklet Notes: Morihide Katayama
Cover Painting: *Birds and Flowers*, a pair of six-panelled folding screens, colours and ink on paper (detail)
by Yuhi, 18th Century (The Tokugawa Art Museum)
This recording has been recorded and edited at 24 bit resolution.



DDD

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Playing Time
58:21

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