

NAXOS

BLOCH: AMERICA (An Epic Rhapsody)

8.557151

Swiss-born Bloch, a pupil of Eugène Ysaÿe, became an American citizen in 1924. He has a particular reputation as a Jewish composer, and during his life his compositional style underwent several changes. He was hugely prolific, and wrote masterpieces of orchestral, instrumental, vocal and chamber music. *America, An Epic Rhapsody*, vividly describes the history of the country using styles ranging from Native American folk-music and jazz to the dissonance of car horns. The *Suite hébraïque*, composed especially for Bloch's seventieth birthday festival in Chicago, draws on traditional Jewish melodies to evoke a sense of nostalgia.

Ernest
BLOCH
(1880-1959)

America (An Epic Rhapsody)

America (An Epic Rhapsody for Orchestra)* 50:03

- | | | |
|---|---|-------|
| 1 | 1620: The Soil – The Indians – (England) –
The Mayflower – The Landing of the Pilgrims | 19:42 |
| 2 | 1861-1865: Hours of Joy – Hours of Sorrow | 15:46 |
| 3 | 1926: The Present – The Future (Anthem)** | 14:35 |

Suite hébraïque† 12:40

- | | | |
|---|--------------|------|
| 4 | Rapsodie | 6:31 |
| 5 | Processional | 2:29 |
| 6 | Affirmation | 3:40 |

Slovak Radio Symphony Orchestra*
Lučnica Chorus (Chorus-master: Elena Matúšová)**
Hagai Shaham, Violin† • Atlas Camerata Orchestra† • Dalia Atlas

Recorded in the Concert Hall of the Slovak Radio at Bratislava, from March 26th to 31st, 2001*
and in Haifa, Israel, on 11th July, 2001†

Producers: Mirko Krajič* and Yuval Karin† • Engineers: Pavel Hanzel* and Eitan Shamal†

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Playing Time
62:43

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