

NAXOS

STRAVINSKY: Oedipus Rex • Les Noces

8.557499

Oedipus Rex, based on Sophocles' tragedy, is an established twentieth-century classic. Employing a speaker, male chorus and orchestra, it represents Stravinsky's 1920s neo-classicism at its peak. *Les Noces*, an amalgam of ballet and dance cantata in four scenes for solo voices, chorus, four pianos and seventeen percussion instruments, depicts a Russian peasant wedding. One of only two theatrical works by Stravinsky to combine music with a text in his mother tongue, *Les Noces* is also his most Russian work, in which ritual, symbol and meaning on every level are part of his direct cultural heredity.

Igor
STRAVINSKY
(1882-1971)

Oedipus Rex*	52:21	Les Noces†	24:10
1 Prologue	7:51	7 Scene One	5:11
2 Introducing Creon	7:48	8 Scene Two	5:40
3 Introducing Tiresias	9:56	9 Scene Three	3:02
4 Introducing Jocasta	11:04	10 Scene Four	10:16
5 Introducing the Messenger	9:05		
6 Epilogue	6:38		

Edward Fox, Speaker* • Alison Wells, Soprano† • Susan Bickley, Mezzo-soprano†
Jennifer Lane, Mezzo-soprano* • Martyn Hill, Tenor • Joseph Cornwell, Tenor*
David Wilson-Johnson, Bass-baritone* • Andrew Greenan, Bass*
Alan Ewing, Basso-profundo† • Simon Joly Male Chorus* • Simon Joly Chorale†
International Piano Quartet† • Tristan Fry Percussion Ensemble†
Philharmonia Orchestra* • Robert Craft

Recorded at Abbey Road Studio One, London, England,
on January 8th and 9th 2001 (*Les Noces*) and in June 2001 (*Oedipus Rex*)
Producer: Gregory K. Squires • Editor: Richard Price
Engineers: Arne Akselberg (*Oedipus Rex*), Mike Sheady (*Les Noces*)
Assistant Engineer: Mike Cox • Technical Engineer: Dave Forty
Production Co-ordinator: Alva Minoff • Production Assistant: Phyllis Lanini
Russian Language Coach: Xenia de Berner • Pianos by Steinway & Sons, London
Publisher: *Oedipus Rex*: Edition Russe © Copyright 1927 by Hawkes & Son (London) Ltd.
Revised Version: © Copyright 1949, 1950 by Hawkes & Son (London) Ltd. U.S Copyright renewed.
Publisher: *Les Noces*: Chester Music Ltd. • Booklet Notes: Robert Craft
This recording of *Les Noces* was previously released on Koch International Classics
Cover Picture: *The Sphinx and the Chimera*, 1906 by Louis Weldon Hawkins (1849-1910)
(Musée d'Orsay, Paris, France / Bridgeman Art Library)

CMYK

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Playing Time
76:31

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Booklet notes in English • Kommentar auf Deutsch
Texts (*Oedipus Rex*), translation and English
translation (*Les Noces*) included
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