

NAXOS

STRAVINSKY: The Rite of Spring • The Nightingale

8.557501

'May whoever listens to this music never experience the insult to which it was subjected and of which I was the witness in the Théâtre des Champs-Élysées, Paris, Spring 1913', wrote Stravinsky in 1968, of the première of his *Rite of Spring*. Written for a huge orchestra to a setting of scenes from pagan Russia, this elemental ballet with its vaulting, violent energy and asymmetrical rhythms almost from beginning to end, has become a major landmark of 20th century music. Stravinsky's orchestral palette, different and distinctive in every work, is never more exotically colourful than in his one act opera *The Nightingale*, which is a virtual catalogue of avian imitations.

Igor  
**STRAVINSKY**  
(1882-1971)

**1-12 The Rite of Spring (Ballet) 31:58**

London Symphony Orchestra • Robert Craft

**13-40 The Nightingale (Opera in One Act) 44:30**

The Nightingale ..... Olga Trifonova, Soprano  
 The Fisherman ..... Robert Tear, Tenor  
 The Cook (Kitchen Maid to the Emperor of China) ... Pippa Longworth, Soprano  
 The Emperor of China ..... Paul Whelan, Bass-baritone  
 The Chamberlain (Chief Retainer to the Emperor) .... Stephen Richardson, Bass  
 The Bonze (Chaplain to the Emperor) ..... Andrew Greenan, Baritone  
 Death ..... Sally Burgess, Alto  
 Japanese Envoys 1 and 3 ..... Peter Hall, Tenor  
 Japanese Envoy 2 ..... Simon Preece, Bass  
 Courtiers ..... London Voices, prepared by Terry Edwards

**Philharmonia Orchestra • Robert Craft**

A full track listing can be found on page 2 of the booklet

Previously released on Koch International Classics (1-12) and MusicMasters (13-40)

Tracks 1-12 recorded at Abbey Road Studio 1, London, from 1st to 4th July, 1995  
 Producer: Michael Fine • Engineer: Simon Rhodes • Tracks 13-40 recorded at Abbey Road  
 Studio 1, London, from 14th to 17th August, 1997 • Producer: Gregory K. Squires  
 Engineer: Michael Sheady • Booklet notes: Robert Craft

Includes a transliteration and an English translation of the sung texts of *The Nightingale*  
 Cover Image: *Sketch for the Rite of Spring* by Nicolas Roerich (1874-1947)  
 (Art Gallery of Astrakhan, Russia / The Bridgeman Art Library)

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Playing Time  
76:28



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 Booklet notes in English • Kommentar auf Deutsch  
 Includes sung texts  
 Made in the EU