

NAXOS

8.557612

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Playing Time  
57:47

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A gifted musician, writer and watercolourist, Hugo Alfvén is regarded in his native Sweden as the most significant composer after Berwald. The *Fifth Symphony* occupied Alfvén throughout the 1940s and 1950s, and draws on themes from his ambitious 1923 ballet *The Mountain King*. The first movement has sometimes been performed on its own, but the symphony is relatively rarely heard as a whole. The *Andante religioso* is Alfvén's arrangement for harp, celesta and strings of an intermezzo from his *Revelation Cantata, Op. 31*. This disc completes the Naxos cycle of the complete Alfvén Symphonies.

Hugo  
**ALFVÉN**  
(1872-1960)

**Symphony No. 5 in A minor, Op. 54** **53:58**

- |   |   |              |
|---|---|--------------|
| 1 | <b>Lento – Allegro non troppo</b>             | <b>19:45</b> |
| 2 | <b>Andante</b>                                | <b>8:29</b>  |
| 3 | <b>Lento – Allegro – Presto molto agitato</b> | <b>7:39</b>  |
| 4 | <b>Finale: Allegro con brio</b>               | <b>18:05</b> |
| 5 | <b>Andante religioso</b>                      | <b>3:49</b>  |

**Norrköping Symphony Orchestra • Niklas Willén**

Tracks 1-4 recorded at De Geer Hall, Norrköping, Sweden, from 15th to 17th June 2004  
Producer: Lennart Dehn • Engineer: Torbjörn Samuelsson

Track 5 recorded at De Geer Hall, Norrköping, Sweden, from 23rd to 27th May, 2005  
Producer, Engineer and Editor: Sean Lewis

Booklet notes: Richard Whitehouse

Cover image: *The Town* (oil on canvas) by August Johan Strindberg (1849-1912)  
(Nationalmuseum, Stockholm, Sweden / [www.bridgeman.co.uk](http://www.bridgeman.co.uk))