

NAXOS

BALADA: Symphony No. 5 • Prague Sinfonietta

8.557749

Described by the composer as 'a trip from the abstract to the ethnic', Catalan-born Balada's *Fifth Symphony* is a kaleidoscope of emotions. From its dark and tense opening movement, *9/11: In Memoriam*, the work evolves by way of a melodious slow movement (based on a Negro spiritual) to a point of 'light and unrepentant optimism' expressed in a brilliant square dance. Spanish elements embellish both the *Prague Sinfonietta*, which draws on the Catalan dance form, the *sardana*, and *Quasi un Pasodoble*, where hints of popular melodies mix with original ideas in an outpouring of colour and contrast. The three *Divertimentos* explore three different aspects of string technique as a means of generating new and exciting sonorities.

WORLD PREMIERE
RECORDINGS

Leonardo
BALADA
(b.1933)


REAL ORQUESTA
SINFÓNICA DE SEVILLA

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|---|---|--------------|
| | Symphony No. 5 'American' (2003) * | 23:39 |
| ① | I 9/11: In Memoriam | 8:02 |
| ② | II Reflection | 8:00 |
| ③ | III Square Dance | 7:38 |
| ④ | Prague Sinfonietta (2003) * | 10:56 |
| | Divertimentos (1991) | 17:34 |
| ⑤ | Divertimento I | 3:41 |
| ⑥ | Divertimento II | 5:49 |
| ⑦ | Divertimento III | 8:04 |
| ⑧ | Quasi un Pasodoble (1981) | 11:20 |

Seville Royal Symphony Orchestra
Eduardo Alonso-Crespo

* denotes world première recording • Publishers: Beteca Music (tracks 1-7) • G. Schirmer Inc. (track 8)
Recorded at the Sala Apolo, Seville, Spain, from 31st January to 3rd February, 2005
Producer and Engineer: Eleanor Walton (K&A Productions Ltd.)
Cover Illustration: *Stars* by Ingo Offermanns (by kind permission)


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Playing Time
63:29



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