

NAXOS

BAX: Piano Works

Although best known for symphonic poems such as *Tintagel*, Bax also wrote prolifically for the piano, his instrument from the first. While the four large-scale piano sonatas are the backbone of Bax's piano music (Naxos 8.557439 and 8.557592), there is also a varied repertoire of shorter pieces. These include highly atmospheric miniatures (some not quite so miniature), many of them technically in the shadow of Debussy or Scriabin. Among these is a succession of pieces written for the eighteen-year-old Harriet Cohen, the intoxicating *The Princess's Rose Garden* and *The Maiden with the Daffodil*, (its score marked 'fresh and innocent' by the composer), and *Mountain Mood*, a melody with variations.

Arnold
BAX
(1883-1953)
Piano Works • 3

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|--------------------------------|-------|---------------------------------------|-------|
| 1 What the Minstrel Told Us | 11:03 | 7 The Princess's Rose Garden | 7:23 |
| 2 A Mountain Mood | 5:38 | 8 Two Russian Tone Poems | 16:39 |
| 3 The Maiden with the Daffodil | 4:20 | 9 Nocturne – May Night in the Ukraine | 10:16 |
| 4 Pæan | 3:38 | 10 Gopak | 6:23 |
| 5 A Hill Tune | 4:15 | 11 Lullaby | 4:27 |
| 6 Mediterranean | 3:06 | 12 Sleepy-Head | 5:28 |

Ashley Wass, Piano

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(Mallett Gallery, London/Bridgeman Art Library, London)

8.557769



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Playing Time
65:57



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