

8.559120

Playing Time:  
73:59

George  
**ROCHBERG**  
(b. 1918)

Boston Modern Orchestra Project • Gil Rose  
Mary Nessinger, Mezzo-Soprano\*

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**ROCHBERG: Black Sounds • Phaedra**

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LP 05537



- 1 **Black Sounds** (Music for the ballet "The Act") 17:24  
**Cantio Sacra** "Warum betrübst du dich, mein Herz?"  
(transcription for small orchestra of organ music of S. Scheidt)
- 2 Versus. Chorals in Cantu 2:08
- 3 Versus. Chorals in Cantu 1:24
- 4 Versus. Chorals in Tenore 0:49
- 5 Versus. Chorals in Cantu 0:59
- 6 Versus. Chorals in Cantu 1:13
- 7 Versus. Bienenm contrapuntumto duplci 1:31
- 8 Versus. Chorals in Cantu 0:46
- 9 Versus. Chorals in Tenore 1:12
- 10 Versus. Chorals in Basso 1:08
- 11 Versus. Chorals in Basso 0:53
- 12 Versus. Chorals in Cantu 1:07
- 13 Versus. Chorals in Cantu Colorato 0:57
- 14 **Phaedra**\*: A Monodrama in seven scenes 5:58
- 15 Aria: "In May, in brilliant Athens" 4:10
- 16 Orchestral Interlude: Black Sails 4:36
- 17 Aria: "You monster!" 5:06
- 18 Orchestral Interlude: Theseus' homecoming 5:49
- 19 Supplication: "Theseus, I heard the deluge of your voice" 8:25
- 20 Caballetta: "My last calamity has come" 8:10
- 21 Orchestral Postlude: The Death of Hippolytus 8:10

Recorded at Jordan Hall, New England Conservatory of Music, Boston, Massachusetts, U.S.A. from 18th to 20th October, 1998.  
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American flag, folk artist, 1880s.  
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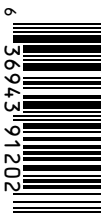
AMERICAN CLASSICS

George Rochberg is one of the more controversial figures in American music partly because his compositional method was so varied. Mid-century, he embraced 20th century serialism, but he later wrote in a modern style incorporating traditional tonality into his works. The dramatic *Black Sounds* (1965) concerns the act of murder and is unrelenting in intensity and dark in its gesture. The result is a total chromaticized texture, though not necessarily atonal. In contrast, the *Cantio Sacra* embraces the baroque musical form of the chorale with transcriptions for small orchestra of Scheidt's organ variations on a chorale tune. The essence of the ancient, terrible, but all-too-human drama of *Phaedra* lends itself well to musical setting in Rochberg's monodrama.

This recording was supervised by the composer, George Rochberg.

Booklet notes in English  
Kommentar auf Deutsch  
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