



AMERICAN CLASSICS

The composer Elie Siegmeister once declared of Langston Hughes (1902-1967) that he was the "most musical poet of the twentieth century". True or false, this judgement underscores the unquestionable fact that much of Hughes's poetry lends itself fairly readily to musical setting, and that, for Hughes, music was perhaps a principal inspiration behind his writing. From popular forms to the more demanding jazz and classical repertoire, Langston Hughes found inspiration in the work of musicians. He adored music and took pride in the fascination that his poems and plays inspired in composers and performers. This collection of songs written by 20th Century American composers on the poet's texts celebrates the centenary of his birth.

Tracks 1, 4, 8, 12, 16, 19, 21 & 27  
 Narrated by William Warfield  
 Tracks 2, 3, 5-7, 9-11, 13-15, 17, 18, and 20  
 Performed by Darryl Taylor and Maria Corley  
 Tracks 22-26 Performed by Erik Santos, Patricia Terry Ross  
 and Sandy Nordahl

Booklet notes in English  
 Kommentar auf Deutsch  
 Commentaire en français  
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# DREAMER

## A Portrait of Langston Hughes

Darryl Taylor, Tenor  
 William Warfield, Narrator

- |       |   |       |
|-------|---|-------|
| 1     | My People   | 0:22  |
| 2     | "Heart" from <i>Heart on the Wall</i> (Robert Owens)                      | 1:34  |
| 3     | "Island" from <i>Shadow of the Blues</i> (John Musto)                     | 1:31  |
| 4     | The Weary Blues   | 2:10  |
| 5     | "Litany" from <i>Shadow of the Blues</i> (John Musto)                     | 3:26  |
| 6     | "A Black Pierrot" from <i>Songs of Separation</i> (William Grant Still)   | 2:05  |
| 7     | "March Moon" from <i>Beyond the Rim of Day</i> (Hale Smith)               | 2:25  |
| 8     | Negro   | 1:02  |
| 9     | The Negro Speaks of Rivers (Margaret Bonds)                               | 4:24  |
| 10    | "My People" from <i>Genius Child</i> (Ricky Ian Gordon)                   | 3:28  |
| 11    | Song to the Dark Virgin (Florence Price)                                  | 2:08  |
| 12    | Evil  | 0:13  |
| 13    | Joy (Howard Swanson)  | 0:51  |
| 14    | "Lonely House" from <i>Street Scene</i> (Kurt Weill)                      | 3:48  |
| 15    | "Minstrel Man" from <i>Three Dream Portraits</i> (Margaret Bonds)         | 2:15  |
| 16    | Sunday Morning Prophecy   | 1:11  |
| 17    | "In Time of Silver Rain" from <i>Fields of Wonder</i> (Harriette Davison) | 1:16  |
| 18    | "Carolina Cabin" from <i>Four Songs of Langston Hughes</i> (Jean Berger)  | 2:08  |
| 19    | Madam and the Census Taker  | 0:50  |
| 20    | Lovely, Dark and Lonely One (Harry T. Burleigh)                           | 2:02  |
| 21    | Sylvester's Dying Bed   | 1:16  |
| 22-26 | Dreamer (Erik Santos)   | 24:37 |
| 27    | Still Here  | 0:35  |

Recorded at the studios of WFMT Radio, Chicago, IL, July 23, 2001 and at Gallagher-Bluedorn Performing Arts Center, Great Hall, December 18-21, 2001  
 Producers: Darryl Taylor, Peter Nothnagle and Erik Santos  
 Engineers: Mark Travis and Peter Nothnagle  
 Cover Art: Artist Portraits compiled by Elizabeth LaVelle · American flag, folk artist, 1880s.

Playing Time: 67:18

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