

8.559174

STILL: Afro-American Symphony • Africa

NAXOS

Playing  
Time:  
60:09

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William Grant  
**STILL**  
(1895-1978)

- |   |   |              |
|---|---|--------------|
| 1 | <b>In Memoriam (1943) *</b>             | <b>7:22</b>  |
|   | <b>Africa (Symphonic Poem) (1930) *</b> | <b>27:51</b> |
| 2 | Land of Peace                           | 12:27        |
| 3 | Land of Romance                         | 7:01         |
| 4 | Land of Superstition                    | 8:22         |
|   | <b>Symphony No. 1</b>                   |              |
|   | <b>'Afro-American' (1930)</b>           | <b>24:57</b> |
| 5 | Moderato Assai                          | 7:47         |
| 6 | Adagio                                  | 5:14         |
| 7 | Animato                                 | 3:16         |
| 8 | Lento, con risoluzione                  | 8:39         |

**Fort Smith Symphony**  
John Jeter

\* denotes World Première recording  
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Track 1 published by MCA

Tracks 2-4 published by William Grant Still Music

Tracks 5-8 published by Chester/Novello

Recorded at Arkansas Best Corporation Performing Arts Center, Forth Smith, Arkansas, USA, on 28th and 29th February, 2004

Producer and Engineer: Tim Handley

Booklet Note: David Ciucevich

Cover Painting: *Steamboat Race on the Mississippi River*

(1871) by Nathaniel Currier and James Merritt Ives

(The Art Archive/ Yale University/Joseph Martin)

American flag, folk artist, 1880s.



AMERICAN CLASSICS

The life and career of the African-American composer William Grant Still qualifies as the quintessential American success story. Often referred to as the dean of African-American composers, Still rose from humble beginnings to work as an arranger while studying composition with Chadwick and Varèse. An active participant in the Harlem Renaissance, Still embraced African-American forms such as the blues, spirituals and jazz in addition to other ethnic American genres. The *Afro-American Symphony* established his reputation worldwide, and remains his most popular and most recorded work. His brooding tone poem *Africa* is part of a trilogy of works depicting African-American roots while *In Memoriam* is a poignant tribute to the sacrifices of African-Americans during the Second World War.

WORLD PREMIERE  
RECORDINGS

Booklet notes in English  
Kommentar auf Deutsch



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