

Sibelius's first set of *Scènes historiques* forms a suite taken from music for a patriotic pageant, staged in 1899 at a time of increasing Finnish nationalism and originally including *Finlandia*, which was published separately. For his *Scènes Historiques II* Sibelius composed new music. In the opening *The Chase*, horns are heard through the mist, followed by the wild chase, with its impelling rhythms. The incidental music for Adolf Paul's play *King Christian II*, set in the 16th century, deals with the King's love of a commoner, her murder by a jealous rival and the King's bloodthirsty revenge. It includes a strongly-felt love scene, *Nocturne*, with many elements characteristic of the composer's future musical language.

Jean
SIBELIUS
(1865-1957)

Scènes historiques I, Op. 25		18:12
1	All'Overtura: Grave – Allegro	4:43
2	Scena: Tempo di menuetto	5:52
3	Festivo: Tempo di Bolero	7:37
Scènes historiques II, Op. 66		19:42
4	The Chase (Overture): Andante – Allegro con brio	7:22
5	Love Song: Largo	5:32
6	At the Drawbridge: Allegro moderato	6:49
King Christian II Suite, Op. 27		25:34
7	Nocturne: Molto moderato	7:29
8	Elégie: Andante sostenuto	5:40
9	Musette: Allegretto	2:19
10	Serenade: Moderato assai (Quasi menuetto)	4:45
11	Ballade: Allegro molto	5:20

New Zealand Symphony Orchestra • Pietari Inkinen

Recorded in Wellington Town Hall, Wellington, New Zealand, 16-17 August, 2006

Producer and Engineer: Tim Handley

Booklet Notes: Keith Anderson

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Playing Time
63:28



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