

Isotaro Sugata's compositions may be viewed as a synthesis of several different kinds of Western music, as well as incorporating elements of traditional Japanese imperial music. Inspired by Hindemith, the polyphonic *Symphonic Overture* is virtually a single-movement symphony. Calling for an orchestra with triple winds and Japanese traditional percussion, *Peaceful Dance of Two Dragons* is a free and powerful paraphrase of *Nasori*, a *Gagaku* dance. *Dancing Girl in the Orient*, taken from "Sketches of the Desert" – *Suite in Oriental Style*, is written in the manner of Rimsky-Korsakov and Ketelbey. The ballet music *The Rhythm of Life* is an idiosyncratic piece in a primitivistic style, where fragments from Stravinsky's *Le sacre du printemps* are combined with Japanese melodies.

Isotaro SUGATA

(1907-1952)

WORLD PREMIERE
RECORDINGS

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|---|--|--------------|
| 1 | Symphonic Overture, Op. 6 (1939)* | 16:31 |
| | Peaceful Dance of Two Dragons, Op. 8 (1940)* | 12:20 |
| 2 | JO (Misterioso e gentile) | 2:15 |
| 3 | HA (Con gravita e fastoso) | 4:13 |
| 4 | KYU (Grazioso) | 5:52 |
| | Ballet Music "The Rhythm of Life", Op. 25 (1950)* | 21:51 |
| 5 | Misterioso | 5:22 |
| 6 | Andante – scherzando | 6:58 |
| 7 | Lento | 9:31 |
| 8 | Dancing Girl in the Orient (from "Sketches of the Desert" - Suite in Oriental Style, Op. 10) (1941) | 4:46 |

***World Première Recording**

Kanagawa Philharmonic Orchestra • Kazuhiko Komatsu

Recorded at Kanagawa Art Hall on 29th and 30th June, 2006
Producer: Hisaaki Matsushita • Engineer: Takeshi Muramatsu (Octavia Records Inc.)

Mixed and Mastered at EXTON Studio (Yokohama, Japan)

Artistic Adviser and Music Notes: Morihide Katayama

Cover Painting: *Leaning Woman* (1917) by Tetsugoro Yorozu (1885-1927)

(The National Museum of Modern Art, Tokyo)

NAXOS

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DDD

Playing Time
55:28



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