

Playing
Time
77:10

Havergal
BRIAN
(1876-1972)

Symphonies Nos. 11 & 15

National Symphony Orchestra of Ireland
Tony Rowe[†], Adrian Leaper[‡], conductors

1 - 5	Concert Overture: For Valour (1902-06)[†]	13:29
6 - 14	Comedy Overture: Doctor Merryheart[‡] (1911-12)	16:01
15	Symphony No. 11 (1954)[‡]	24:30
	Adagio	6:32
16 - 19	Allegro giocoso	14:00
20 - 22	Maestoso e pesante – Allegro marcia	3:58
23 - 28	Symphony No. 15 (1960)[†]	22:49

Born in Staffordshire, Havergal Brian played the violin and cello and by the age of twelve was in demand as a church organist. His composition skills were largely self-taught, but he wrote no less than 33 symphonies, the first of which is now lost. The martial vigour of his early overture *For Valour* contrasts with the imaginative comedy of *Doctor Merryheart*, a send-up of Straussian programme music. Brian's capricious side is again displayed in two of his symphonies, especially the pompous *No. 15* – yet *No. 11*'s opening *Adagio* is among his most profoundly expressive utterances.

This compact disc was produced with kind support from The Havergal Brian Society and The Rex Foundation

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Recorded in the National Concert Hall, Dublin, on 6th September, 1993 (Tracks **6-14** and **15-22**), and on 27th May, 1997 (Tracks **1-5** and **23-28**).

MADE IN
E.C.



MARCO
POLO

Cover Painting: *The Comet* (19th century French Cartoon) (Musée Carnavalet, Paris) (Bridgeman Art Library, London)

English Text /
Deutscher Text /
Texte en français

