

Born in Liverpool in 1884 to a family of waxwork museum proprietors, Alfred Reynolds studied music first in Liverpool, then for a few months at the Heidelberg Conservatory, before moving to Berlin to study with Humperdinck for six years. Reynolds' considerable output was almost entirely associated with the stage in one way or another, such as the five *suites* which are all derived from incidental music composed for various theatrical productions. The *Festival March* or *March of Spears* comes from the stage version of Baroness Orczy's *Leatherstocking*, while *The Sirens of Southend* was written for a cabaret entertainment, *Midnight Follies*. The *Three Pieces for Theatre* were a common concert grouping in Reynolds' day and make an attractively varied suite.

Alfred REYNOLDS

(1884-1969)

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|----|---|-------|----|--|------|
| 1 | Festival March | 3:30 | 14 | Gavotte | 1:42 |
| | Suite: Alice through the Looking-Glass | 11:40 | 15 | Serenade | 2:31 |
| 2 | Jabberwocky | 2:08 | 16 | The Duenna's Dance | 2:39 |
| 3 | Ballet of the Talking Flowers | 4:17 | 17 | Fandango | 2:21 |
| 4 | Parade of the Hobby Horses | 1:53 | 18 | Overture for a Comedy | 4:26 |
| 5 | March of the Drums | 1:58 | 19 | The Sirens of Southend | 3:09 |
| 6 | Finale | 1:23 | 20 | Swiss Lullaby and Ballet (from Swiss Family Robinson) | 5:01 |
| | Suite: The Toy Cart | 8:04 | | Suite: Marriage à la Mode | 5:20 |
| 7 | Prelude | 1:56 | 21 | Tarantella | 1:54 |
| 8 | Romanza | 2:22 | 22 | Gavotte | 1:36 |
| 9 | Finale | 3:46 | 23 | Finale | 1:50 |
| 10 | Overture: The Taming of the Shrew | 5:16 | | Three Pieces for Theatre | 9:53 |
| 11 | Suite: 1066 and All That | 5:09 | 24 | Overture to Much Ado about Nothing | 4:23 |
| 12 | Ballet of the Roses (from 1066 and All That) | 5:15 | 25 | Entr'acte from The Critic | 3:09 |
| | Suite of Five Dances from The Duenna | 10:44 | 26 | Mascarade from The Merchant of Venice | 2:22 |
| 13 | Jig | 1:31 | | | |

Royal Ballet Sinfonia • Gavin Sutherland

Recorded at Whitfield Street Studios, London, on 11th and 12th December 2000

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**MARCO
POLO**

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Playing Time
77:26



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