

Undoubtedly the leading Portuguese symphonist of the twentieth century, Joly Braga Santos was a gifted composer for the orchestra. His musical language is based on a strong sense of architecture as well as drama, with generous melodic lines and a natural instinct for structural development. In his own words, he wanted to contribute "toward a Latin symphonism and to react against the predominant tendency of the generation that preceded me to reject monumentalism in music". At times recalling the symphonies of Bruckner and Sibelius, Braga Santos' *Symphony No. 4* is one of his longest and most accomplished in balance and form, as well as in orchestration. The *Symphonic Variations on a popular song from the Alentejo* are influenced by local folk-songs, which the composer considered to be "of mesmerizing originality and grandeur".

RTE

**JOLY  
BRAGA SANTOS**  
(1924-1988)

  
FUNDAÇÃO  
BANCO COMERCIAL PORTUGUÊS

- |   |   |              |
|---|---|--------------|
| ① | <b>Symphonic Variations<br/>on a popular song from the Alentejo</b> | <b>14:48</b> |
|   | <b>Symphony No. 4</b>   | <b>53:05</b> |
| ② | <b>Lento</b>  | <b>13:41</b> |
| ③ | <b>Andante</b>  | <b>12:15</b> |
| ④ | <b>Allegro tranquillo</b>   | <b>11:00</b> |
| ⑤ | <b>Lento</b>  | <b>16:09</b> |

**National Symphony Orchestra of Ireland • Álvaro Cassuto**

Recorded at the RTE Concert Hall, Dublin, on 28th June 2001  
 Producer and Engineer: Tim Handley • Booklet Notes: Álvaro Cassuto  
 Score and parts obtained through Sociedade Portuguesa de Autores

Cover Image: *Fishermen's chapel dedicated to Saint Anthony at São Martinho do Porto*  
 by Falcão Trigoso, used by kind permission of the artist's granddaughter

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MARCO POLO

DDD

8.225233

Playing Time  
67:53



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