

As a composer Rachmaninov was the last of the great Russian masters of the late nineteenth century. His music is imbued with a fatalistic sense of melancholy expressed in broad melodies. In addition to his well-known concertos and symphonies, his songs and works for solo piano display his musical mastery in more subtle form. The orchestral Fantasy *The Rock* is full of atmosphere, achieved through superb orchestration. His masterpiece is the Choral Symphony *The Bells*, in which all his remarkable powers as a composer are fused and unified. Using a Russian version of Edgar Alan Poe's *The Bells* as the texts for each of the four movements, Rachmaninov creates a unique sound-world, using orchestra, chorus and vocal soloists to spellbinding effect.

Sergey
RACHMANINOV
 (1873-1943)

- | | | |
|---|---|-------|
| 1 | The Rock, fantasy for orchestra (Utyos), Op. 7 | 14:33 |
| | The Bells, choral symphony (Kolokola), Op. 35 | 37:15 |
| 2 | Allegro, ma non tanto | 6:36 |
| 3 | Lento | 10:50 |
| 4 | Presto | 8:34 |
| 5 | Lento lugubre - Allegro - Andante - Tempo I | 11:16 |

Helen Field, soprano • Ivan Choupenitch, tenor • Oleg Melnikov, bass
 RTÉ Philharmonic Choir
 National Symphony Orchestra of Ireland • Alexander Anissimov

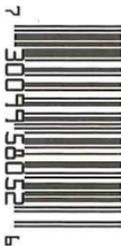
Recorded in the National Concert Hall, Dublin, Ireland
 on the 7th December, 1996, and 24th and 25th March, 1997
 Publishers: Boosey & Hawkes • Producer and Engineer: Tim Handley • Editor: Phil Rowlands
 Cover Painting: *The Evening Bell Tolls* by Isaak Ilyich-Levitan (Bridgeman Art Library, UK)

WWW.NAXOS.COM
NAXOS
 THE GREAT MUSIC COLLECTION

DDD

8.550805

Playing Time
 51:48



www.naxos.com

Made in E.C.

Texto en español

English Text • Deutscher Text • Texte en français

© & © 2001 HNH International Ltd.