

The enormously prolific Bohuslav Martinů was one of the leading Czech composers of the 20th century. Forced to flee his homeland after the annexation of Czechoslovakia in 1939, Martinů settled initially in the United States where he wrote all six of his symphonies. These are amongst his most impressive and widely recorded achievements, combining driving energy and rhythmic flexibility with spontaneous melodies drawn from Czech folk songs. The two symphonies on this disc are predominantly lyrical works, yet highly contrasted.

Bohuslav  
**MARTINŮ**  
(1890-1959)

**Symphony No.2**

**24:56**

- |   |                  |      |
|---|------------------|------|
| 1 | Allegro moderato | 7:16 |
| 2 | Andante moderato | 7:29 |
| 3 | Poco allegro     | 4:53 |
| 4 | Allegro          | 5:18 |

**Symphony No.4**

**36:02**

- |   |  |       |
|---|--|-------|
| 5 | Poco moderato - Poco allegro           | 7:52  |
| 6 | Allegro vivo - Moderato - Allegro vivo | 9:23  |
| 7 | Largo                                  | 10:59 |
| 8 | Poco allegro                           | 7:48  |

**National Symphony Orchestra of Ukraine**

**Arthur Fagen**

Recorded at the Grand Concert Studio of the National Radio Company of Ukraine in Kiev  
from 15th to 18th March 1995

Producer: Alexander Hornostai • Music Notes: Keith Anderson  
Cover Photo: *The Quarry at Branik* by Bohumil Kubista (1884-1918)  
Narodni Galerie, Prague, Czech Republic/Bridgeman Art Library, UK

**NAXOS**

**DDD**

8.553349

Playing Time  
60:59



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