

8.553379

R. STRAUSS: Le Bourgeois Gentilhomme

NAXOS



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STEREO

DDD

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Richard
STRAUSS
(1864-1949)

Playing
Time
57:30

Le Bourgeois Gentilhomme • Intermezzo Interludes

Melbourne Symphony Orchestra • Michael Halász

Der Bürger als Edelmann (Le Bourgeois Gentilhomme), Op. 60 Suite for orchestra

- | | |
|--|-------|
| | 34:27 |
| 1 Ouvertüre zum 1. Aufzug (Overture to Act I) | 4:10 |
| 2 Menuett | 1:41 |
| 3 Der Fechtmeister (The Fencing-Master) | 1:42 |
| 4 Auftritt und Tanz der Schneider
(Entrance and Dance of the Tailors) | 4:28 |
| 5 Das Menuett des Lully (Lully's Minuet) | 2:18 |
| 6 Courante | 2:42 |
| 7 Auftritt der Cléonte (Entrance of Cléonte) | 4:03 |
| 8 Vorspiel zum 2. Aufzug (Prelude to Act II) | 2:59 |
| 9 Das Diner (The Dinner) | 10:22 |

Four Symphonic Interludes from "Intermezzo", Op. 72

- | | |
|---|-------|
| | 22:52 |
| 10 Reiseieber und Walzerszene
(Travel Fever and Waltz Scene) | 10:01 |
| 11 Träumerei am Kamin (Dreaming by the Fireside) | 7:09 |
| 12 Am Spieltisch (At the Card-Table) | 3:07 |
| 13 Fröhlicher Beschluß (Happy Decision) | 2:28 |

The Composer

Richard Strauss acquired an early reputation as a composer and conductor before winning international fame for his tone-poems, culminating in *Ein Heldenleben* in 1898. In 1905 he provoked outrage with his first successful opera, *Salome*, the first of a series eagerly anticipated by contemporary audiences. In a long life Strauss also added to the repertoire of German song, summing up a romantic tradition, as he had in the nostalgic opera *Der Rosenkavalier*.

The Music

For Molière's play, *Le Bourgeois gentilhomme*, Strauss recreated the French era of Lully, in a score full of wit and good humour. His opera, *Intermezzo*, broke new ground, being a conversation opera recounting a true domestic quarrel between the composer and his wife. The scenes were linked by a series of depictive orchestral interludes that Strauss later made into a four-movement suite.

Recorded in Melbourne Concert Hall, Melbourne,
from 20th to 23rd February, 1996.

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Music Notes: Keith Anderson

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