

8.554265

SIBELIUS: Finlandia • Karelia Suite • Lemminkäinen Suite

NAXOS



8.554265

STEREO

DDD

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Jean

SIBELIUS

(1865-1957)

 Playing
Time
72:50

Finlandia • Karelia Suite

Lemminkäinen Suite

 Daō Kolbeinsson, Cor Anglais* • Richard Tchaikovsky, Cello†
Iceland Symphony Orchestra • Petri Sakari

- | | | |
|---|--|--------------|
| 1 | Finlandia, Op. 26 | 8:06 |
| | Karelia Suite, Op. 11 | 15:57 |
| 2 | I Intermezzo | 3:48 |
| 3 | II Ballade | 7:36 |
| 4 | III Alla marcia | 4:28 |
| | Lemminkäinen Suite, Op. 22 | 48:36 |
| 5 | Lemminkäinen and the Maidens of Saari | 16:44 |
| 6 | Lemminkäinen in Tuonela† | 16:07 |
| 7 | The Swan of Tuonela*† | 9:07 |
| 8 | Lemminkäinen's Return | 6:25 |

The Composer

Jean Sibelius is the most famous Finnish composer of the 20th century. Though at first he sought a career as an orchestral violinist, it soon became apparent that his life was to be dedicated to composition. That decision was helped by a pension from the Finnish government.

The Music

Sibelius was to rely heavily on Finnish patriotism, often using the heroic past as his theme, his most famous work, *Finlandia*, and *Karelia* being among this group of compositions. He also based the four dramatic *Lemminkäinen* legends on the epic Kalevala, the haunting melody of the section known as *The Swan of Tuonela* being one of the favourites of the concert hall.

Recorded in the University Hall, Reykjavík from 28th to 31st May, and on 25th November, 1997.

Producer: Paul Myers

Engineers: Bjarni Rúnar Bjarnason, Þórir Steingrímsson and Vigfús Ingvarsson

Editing: Black Box Music

Cover Painting: Lemminkäinen's Mother by Akseli Gallen-Kallela (1865-1931) (The Gallen-Kallela Museum, Finland)

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