

8.554417

R. STRAUSS: Ein Heldenleben • Macbeth

NAXOS



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STEREO

DDD

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Richard
STRAUSS
(1864-1949)

Playing
Time
64:52

Ein Heldenleben • Macbeth

National Symphony Orchestra of Ireland • Gerhard Markson

- | | | |
|----------|---|--------------|
| 1 | Macbeth, Op. 23 | 19:28 |
| | Ein Heldenleben, Op. 40 | |
| | (A Hero's Life) | 45:12 |
| | Alan Smale, Violin | |
| 2 | Der Held (The Hero) – | 4:28 |
| 3 | Des Helden Widersacher | |
| | (The Hero's Enemies) – | 3:21 |
| 4 | Des Helden Gefährtin | |
| | (The Hero's Companion) – | 12:52 |
| 5 | Des Helden Walstatt | |
| | (The Hero's Field of Battle) – | 9:33 |
| 6 | Des Helden Friedenswerke | |
| | (The Hero's Works of Peace) – | 6:01 |
| 7 | Des Helden Weltflucht und Vollendung | |
| | (The Hero's Withdrawal | |
| | from the World) – | 8:56 |

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

Ein Heldenleben makes heavy demands on an orchestra. Autobiographical in content, it mocks and silences the composer's critics, portrays his wife, loving and capricious, and offers a musical summary of his earlier work. *Macbeth*, based on Shakespeare, shows Macbeth's vaulting ambition, the wiles of Lady Macbeth, the royal power of King Duncan, and the usurper's final defeat, as trumpets herald the approach of Malcolm and Macduff.

This recording was made and edited at a sampling rate of 176.4 kHz.
Recorded in the RTE Concert Hall, Dublin, from 27th to 29th May, 1998.
Producer: Andrew Walton, K&A Productions
Engineer: Tony Faulkner Assistant Engineer: Jon Smith
Post-production: Emma Stocker, Andrew Walton
Music Notes: Keith Anderson

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