

An organ student of the famous Marcel Dupré, Olivier Messiaen was appointed organist of La Trinité in Paris at the age of 22, a post he was to hold for the next 40 years. He was to become the most influential French composer in the second half of the 20th century. His innovative works for piano, with their vast range of fresh and new sonorities, have become part of the regular recital repertoire, a challenge to the virtuosity of any performer. They notably include works such as *La Fauvette des jardins* (The Garden Warbler), based, like the earlier *Catalogue d'oiseaux*, on bird-song in an evocative landscape, a continuing source of inspiration.

Olivier
MESSIAEN
(1908-1992)

Piano Music Volume 4

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|----------|--|--------------|
| 1 | Les offrandes oubliées | 9:19 |
| 2 | Fantaisie Burlesque | 6:41 |
| 3 | Pièce pour le tombeau de Paul Dukas | 3:35 |
| 4 | Rondeau | 2:42 |
| 5 | Prélude (1964) (World première recording) | 2:18 |
| | La fauvette des jardins | 32:39 |
| 6 | La fauvette des jardins | 10:24 |
| 7 | La fauvette des jardins (<i>le lac vert et violet...</i>) | 10:31 |
| 8 | La fauvette des jardins (<i>ondulations de l'eau...</i>) | 11:44 |

Håkon Austbø

1-4, 6-8 Recorded at St Martin's Church, East Woodhay, Hampshire, UK, from 6th to 8th April, 1999

5 Recorded at the Doopsgezinde Kerk, Deventer, Netherlands, on 11th July, 2001.

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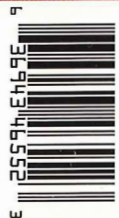
Cover Painting: *Flute Player on the cliffs*, 1889, (oil on canvas) by Paul Gauguin (1848-1903) (AKG London)

NAXOS

DDD

8.554655

Playing Time
57:16



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