

This album contains several works widely enjoyed in Japan. Toyama's work makes use of traditional kabuki percussion in a series of popular Japanese folk melodies. Konoye's *Etenraku* is a modern orchestral arrangement of ancient Japanese imperial music and was in Leopold Stokowski's orchestral repertoire. Ifukube's *Japanese Rhapsody*, which was first performed in Boston, evokes the atmosphere of the traditional Japanese Matsuri (festivity), with striking orchestration. The work was admired by such figures as Sibelius, Roussel and Ibert. Akutagawa's crisp idiom reminds us of Prokofiev and Kabalevsky. Koyama's brilliant piece *Kobiki-Uta*, consisting of variations on a woodcutters' folk-song, seems to have been written under the influence of Ravel and Stravinsky, and Yoshimatsu's work belongs to the neo-romantic school, but also echoes the music of Takemitsu.

Japanese Orchestral Favourites

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| 1 | Yuzo TOYAMA: Rhapsody for Orchestra (1960) | 7:15 |
| 2 | Hidemaro KONOYE (arr.): Etenraku (1931) | 9:01 |
| | Akira IFUKUBE: Japanese Rhapsody (1935) | |
| 3 | Nocturne | 8:06 |
| 4 | Fête | 8:38 |
| | Yasushi AKUTAGAWA: Music for Symphony Orchestra (1950) | |
| 5 | Andantino | 4:46 |
| 6 | Allegro | 5:01 |
| 7 | Kiyoshige KOYAMA: Kobiki-Uta for Orchestra (1957) | 11:26 |
| 8 | Takashi YOSHIMATSU: Threnody to Toki for String Orchestra and Piano, Op. 12 (1980) | 11:53 |

Tokyo Metropolitan Symphony Orchestra
Ryusuke Numajiri

Recorded at Tokyo Metropolitan Art Space from 25th to 27th July, 2000

Producer: Andrew Walton (K&A) Engineer: Tony Faulkner Post-production: Emma Stocker / Andrew Walton
 Artistic Advisor: Morihide Katayama Cover Painting: Illustrated Tale of Genji, 12th century (The Tokugawa Art Museum)

This recording has been recorded and edited at 24 bit resolution. Special thanks to Takuo Ikeda.



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Playing Time

66:05



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