



8.555223

DDD

Playing Time  
52:07

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Booklet notes in English  
Made in Germany

Lord Berners' compositions, often satirical in intention, include ballets for Diaghilev and for Sadler's Wells. While his first ballet, *The Triumph of Neptune*, is an ambitious and inventive example of his art (Naxos 8.555222), the choral ballet *A Wedding Bouquet* is Berners' most original and successful work, if somewhat influenced by Stravinsky's *Les Noces*. Written to a text by Gertrude Stein and choreographed by Frederick Ashton, this is music full of vivacity, festive brilliance and pathos. Set in a freak show pavilion, *Luna Park* is a 'fantastic ballet in one act', succinctly scored and wittily characterised.

Lord  
**BERNERS**  
(1883–1950)

<b>A Wedding Bouquet</b> (1936) <b>33:17</b>	<b>Luna Park</b> (1930)* <b>16:35</b>
<b>Text:</b> Gertrude Stein (1874–1946)	<b>6</b> The Four Niches <b>6:23</b>
<b>1</b> Allegro Brilliant*	<b>7</b> Adagio <b>4:14</b>
<b>2</b> Tranquillo*	<b>8</b> Variation (Mamselle Nikita) <b>1:41</b>
<b>3</b> Tempo di Valse <b>9:57</b>	<b>9</b> Variation (Serge Lifar) <b>1:09</b>
<b>4</b> Tempo di Tango <b>5:26</b>	<b>10</b> Coda <b>3:04</b>
<b>5</b> <b>March</b> (c. 1945)* <b>1:58</b> (arr. Philip Lane)	

\*WORLD PREMIERE RECORDING

**RTÉ Chamber Choir • Colin Mawby, Chorus Master**  
**RTÉ Sinfonietta • Kenneth Alwyn**

Recorded: 14–15 February 1994 at Taney Parish Centre, Dublin, Ireland  
Producer: Chris Craker • Engineer: Aidon O'Dubhghaill • Booklet notes: Philip Lane  
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Cover: *Circus Sideshow* (1887–88) by Georges Seurat (1859–1891)