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Janáček's symphonic poem *Danube* dates from the time of the first performances of his opera *Katya Kabanova*. Whereas his predecessor Smetana had depicted the river Vltava literally in his cycle of symphonic poems *My Country*, Janáček decided to portray the river Danube as a woman with passions and instincts in four richly turbulent movements. The incidental music to *Schluck und Jau* successfully evokes the unreal atmosphere of Hauptmann's comedy. Like many of his contemporaries, Janáček was interested in folk-music, and the five *Moravian Dances* are derived from the music of his own homeland, Moravia. The *Suite, Opus 3*, makes use of music from his opera *The Beginning of a Romance*. The third movement is an expansion of one of Janáček's *Lachian Dances*, and the whole is suffused with the music of Moravia.

Leoš
JANÁČEK
(1854-1928)

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| 1-4 | Danube (Symphonic Poem) * | 17:10 |
| | (edited by Faltus, Štědroň and Trhlik) | |
| 5-6 | Incidental Music to Schluck und Jau | 9:16 |
| 7-11 | Moravian Dances | 8:55 |
| 12-15 | Suite, Op. 3 | 13:18 |

Slovak Philharmonic Orchestra • Libor Pešek
Jana Valášková, Soprano * • Zdeněk Husek, Viola *

Recorded in December, 1985 at the Concert Hall of the Slovak Philharmonic Orchestra
Producer: Leoš Komárek • Engineers: Gustáv Šoral & Ladislav Krjčovíc • Booklet Notes: Keith Anderson
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Cover Picture: *The Road* by Antonin Slavíček (1870-1910)



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