

The perspective afforded by the passage of time allows us to reassess the work of artists formerly relegated to obscurity and neglect, and Bax is assuredly one composer worthy of our attention. The music of an inveterate Romantic, his output was well out of step with the prevailing musical climate at the time of his death, but now it can be appreciated for the unique voice it reveals. This recording features the *Overture to a Picaresque Comedy*, perhaps an English equivalent to Strauss' *Till Eulenspiegel, Nympholept* – a pagan evocation of one enraptured by spirits of the wood, and the *Fourth Symphony*, for which the composer claimed the sea as his inspiration.

Arnold
BAX
(1883–1953)

Symphony No. 4 • Nympholept

1	Overture to a Picaresque Comedy	9:09
2	Nympholept	16:02
	Symphony No. 4	39:28
3	Allegro moderato	16:08
4	Lento moderato	12:53
5	Allegro	10:26

Royal Scottish National Orchestra
David Lloyd-Jones

Recorded: 24–25 August 2000 at the Henry Wood Hall, Glasgow, Scotland
 Producer and engineer: Tim Handley • Booklet notes: Keith Anderson
 Cover painting: *Morning Derry Vard 1906* by William Percy French (1854–1920)
 (Bridgeman Art Library)

NAXOS

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8.555343

Playing Time
64:38



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