



DDD

8.555350

Playing Time
58:21

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Kōçak Yamada was one of the great pioneers of 20th century Japanese music, who played a defining rôle in helping Western music take root in Japan. During his studies in Berlin with, among others, Max Bruch, Yamada composed the first-ever work for a western orchestra, the *Overture in D major*, and the first-ever symphony, 'Triumph and Peace', by a Japanese composer. Dating from 1912 and written along traditional classical lines, both works show Yamada's indebtedness to Mozart, Beethoven, Schubert, Mendelssohn, Brahms and Dvořák. One year later, in a completely different vein, Yamada composed the two symphonic poems *The Dark Gate* and *Madara No Hana* which, while absorbing the influence of Richard Strauss, Debussy and Scriabin, were written freely with no restraints imposed by his teachers. It is possible to hear in these two works a prototype of Japanese composition which was eventually to lead to the music of Toru Takemitsu.

Kōçak YAMADA (1886-1965)

1	Overture in D major* (1912)	3:32
	Symphony in F major 'Triumph and Peace' (1912)	36:16
2	Moderato	8:46
3	Adagio non tanto e poco marciale	11:22
4	Poco vivace	5:48
5	Adagio molto - Molto allegro e trionfante	10:21
6	Symphonic Poem 'The Dark Gate' (1913)	10:53
7	Symphonic Poem 'Madara No Hana' (1913)	7:40

Ulster Orchestra • New Zealand Symphony Orchestra*
Takuo Yuasa

Track 1 - World Première Recording

Recorded at Wellington Town Hall, Wellington, New Zealand, 30th January 2002 (track 1);
Ulster Hall, Belfast, Northern Ireland, 7th-8th June 2001 (tracks 2-5);
16th-17th September 2000 (tracks 6 and 7)

Producer: Andrew Walton (K&A Productions Ltd.) • Engineer: Eleanor Thomason
Post-Production: Emma Stocker and Andrew Walton

Artistic Advisor & Booklet Notes: Morihide Katayama

Cover Painting: *Birds and Flowers*, a pair of six-panelled folding screens, colours and ink on paper (detail)
by Yuki, 18th Century (The Tokugawa Art Museum)

This recording has been recorded and edited at 24 bit resolution.

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