

Regarded by many as the greatest German composer of organ music since Bach, Max Reger set performers a real challenge in works that develop traditional contrapuntal techniques in a more modern context. Typical of this is his fantasia on the chorale *How Brightly Shines the Morning Star*, a work of 17th century form but alive with twentieth-century tonal colour. In another re-working of a traditional form, Reger's *Introduction and Passacaglia in F minor* is a set of variations, ceaselessly mounting in intensity before their awe-inspiring conclusion. The virtuosic fantasia on *May the praise of God remain my soul's joy!* impelled Reger to stress that despite the obvious difficulty for the performer, there is not a single superfluous note.

Max REGER

(1873-1916)

Organ Works • 4

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|---|---|-------|
| ① | Chorale Fantasia on „Wie schön leuchtet uns der Morgenstern“, Op. 40, No. 1 | 18:08 |
| | Organ Pieces, Op. 59, Nos. 7-9 | 14:02 |
| ② | Kyrie eleison | 5:01 |
| ③ | Gloria in excelsis | 4:15 |
| ④ | Benedictus | 4:47 |
| ⑤ | Introduction and Passacaglia in F minor, Op. 63 | 14:16 |
| | Organ Pieces, Op. 59, Nos. 10-12 | 14:32 |
| ⑥ | Capriccio | 3:40 |
| ⑦ | Melodia | 6:09 |
| ⑧ | Te Deum | 4:43 |
| ⑨ | Chorale Fantasia on „Halleluja! Gott zu loben, bleibe meine Seelenfreud!“ Op. 52, No. 3 | 15:35 |

Josef Still, Organ

Recorded in Trier Cathedral, Germany on 21st and 22nd October, 2001
 Producer and Engineer: Wolfgang Rübsam, RMC Classical Music Inc.
 Booklet Notes: Keith Anderson • Cover Photo: Organ of Trier Cathedral, Germany

NAXOS

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8.555905

Playing Time
76:33



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