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Playing Time
66:47

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NAXOS

ELGAR: The Wand of Youth (Suites No. 1 & 2)

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Illustrating a generally little known facet of Elgar's music, this recording brings together a number of works on which the composer had worked in childhood. Forty years after writing the tunes for a children's play about age, youth and the escapism of fairyland, for performance in the family with his brothers and sisters, Elgar refashioned them into the two suites known as *The Wand of Youth*, from which *Wild Bears* continues to enjoy a separate existence as a popular concert encore. With its tender, wistful moods and restrained scoring, the *Nursery Suite* of 1930 is Elgar's final evocation of childhood.

Edward ELGAR

(1857-1934)

The Wand of Youth

Suite No. 1, Op. 1a

1	I	Overture	1:45
2	II	Serenade	2:23
3	III	Minuet	2:09
4	IV	Sun Dance	2:41
5	V	Fairy Pipers	4:30
6	VI	Slumber Scene	4:14
7	VII	Fairies and Giants	3:01

The Wand of Youth

Suite No. 2, Op. 1b

8	I	March	3:49
9	II	Little Bells	2:41
10	III	Moths and Butterflies	2:18
11	IV	Fountain Dance	3:15

12 V The Tame Bear 2:37

13 VI The Wild Bears 2:16

Dream Children Op. 43 8:22

14 I Andante 4:26

15 II Allegretto piacevole 3:56

Nursery Suite 20:48

16 I Aubade 3:33

17 II The Serious Doll 2:57

18 III Busy-Ness 2:00

19 IV The Sad Doll 2:21

20 V The Wagon (Passes) 1:36

21 VI The Merry Doll 1:32

22 VII Dreaming 6:50

New Zealand Symphony Orchestra • James Judd

Recorded at the Michael Fowler Centre, Wellington, New Zealand, 11th-15th November 2002

Producer: Andrew Walton (K&A Productions Ltd.) • Sound Engineer: Eleanor Thomason

Post-Production: Andrew Walton • Booklet Notes: Keith Anderson

Cover Image: *The Fairy Queen takes an airy drive in a light carriage* by Richard Doyle
Mary Evans Picture Library

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