

NAXOS

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Playing Time  
58:12

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Although the music of Hugo Alfvén has never been widely heard internationally, in his native Sweden he is regarded as representing the spirit of the country, partly owing to his intimate knowledge of Swedish folk music. A gifted watercolourist, writer and composer, Alfvén was well equipped by ability as well as temperament to depict the unique island landscape of the Stockholm archipelago, the stated aim of his *Fourth Symphony*: “The action takes place in the skerries, where sea rages among the rocks on gloomy, stormy nights, by moonlight and in sunshine...”

Hugo  
**ALFVÉN**  
(1872-1960)

**Symphony No. 4, ‘From the  
Outermost Skerries’, Op. 39 (1919)\* 48:08**

- |   |                                       |       |
|---|---------------------------------------|-------|
| 1 | Moderato – Allegretto, ma non troppo  | 11:04 |
| 2 | Allegro – Moderato – Allegro          | 5:01  |
| 3 | Lento – Maestoso – Molto appassionato | 19:13 |
| 4 | Allegro agitato                       | 12:50 |

**5 Festival Overture, Op. 52 (1944) 10:04**

Arndis Halla, Soprano vocalise\* • Johann Valdimarsson, Tenor vocalise\*  
Sigrún Edvaldsdóttir, Violin\* • Richard Talkowsky, Cello\*

Kristján Th. Stephensen, Cor anglais\*  
Iceland Symphony Orchestra • Niklas Willén

Recorded at Háskólabíó (University Cinema Auditorium), Reykjavik, Iceland, from 10th to 13th June, 2003  
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(National Museum, Stockholm / AKG-Images)

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