



Although Darius Milhaud's listed compositions number 443, his reputation rests largely on a series of imaginative works written at the end of World War I and during the early 1920s. *Le Bœuf sur le toit*, a work of unusual melodic and rhythmic appeal and Latin-American overtones, was originally composed as background music for a silent film. The ballet *L'Homme et son désir*, for four wordless singers, solo wind, strings, and a vast percussion section, was seen for a time as the composer's most radical and influential work. Scored for alto saxophone and 17 players, the jazzy ballet *La Création du monde*, was inspired by an American big-band and has long been the composer's most played work.

Darius MILHAUD

(1892-1974)

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|----|-------------------------------------|-------|----|------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|
| 1 | La Création du monde | 16:49 | 13 | III | L'Homme endormi et le fantôme de la Femme morte | 3:19 |
| 2 | Le Bœuf sur le toit | 16:31 | 14 | IV | L'Homme qui dort debout, oscillant comme dans un courant d'eau et comme sans aucun poids | 0:44 |
| | Suite provençale Op. 152d | 15:14 | | | | |
| 3 | I Animé | 1:53 | 15 | V | Toutes les choses de la forêt | 5:21 |
| 4 | II Très modéré | 1:33 | | | qui viennent voir l'Homme endormi | |
| 5 | III Modéré | 1:51 | 16 | VI | Danse de la passion | 3:15 |
| 6 | IV Vif | 1:08 | 17 | VII | Réapparition del la Femme | 3:51 |
| 7 | V Modéré | 1:57 | | | qui entraîne l'Homme peu à peu en tournant lentement devant lui sur elle-même | |
| 8 | VI Vif | 1:00 | | | | |
| 9 | VII Lent | 2:07 | | | | |
| 10 | VIII Vif | 3:46 | 18 | VIII | La lune I a disparu la première, la lune II disparaît à son tour. | 1:10 |
| | L'Homme et son désir Op. 48* | 20:06 | | | Les heures noires se sont écoulées. On voit apparaître les premières Heures blanches. | |
| 11 | I Scène I | 1:27 | | | | |
| 12 | II Apparition de la Lune | 1:01 | | | | |

*Tomoko Makuuchi, Soprano • *Jian Zhao, Mezzo-soprano

*Mathias Vidal, Tenor • *Bernard Deletré, Bass

Orchestre National de Lille-Région Nord / Pas- de Calais • Jean-Claude Casadesus

Recorded at the Auditorium du Nouveau Siècle, Lille, France, 15th-18th July 2003

Producer: Andrew Walton (K&A Productions) • Sound Engineer: Mike Clements

Artistic Assistant : Pierre-Michel Durand

Post-Production: Eleanor Thomason and Andrew Walton • Booklet Notes: Richard Whitehouse
 Publishers: Tracks 1, 3-10: Salabert Editions; Track 2: Max Eschig; Tracks 11-18: Universal Edition

Cover Image: *Le Bœuf sur le toit* (anonymous) from *Gazette du Bon Ton* (1920)

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