

Volume 2 of the Naxos Robert Craft Schoenberg Collection features the *Concerto for String Quartet and Orchestra after Handel*, a work so freely transcribed and developed that it should be counted among Schoenberg's own compositions. Arguably one of his most high-spirited, tender and tuneful works, it is also one of the most demanding for the solo instruments of a quartet since Beethoven's *Great Fugue*. For the first performance of *The Book of the Hanging Gardens*, a setting for mezzo-soprano and piano to texts by Stefan George (1868-1933), Schoenberg himself wrote: "I have for the first time succeeded in approaching an ideal of expression and form which has been in my mind for years".

**Arnold
SCHOENBERG**
(1874-1951)

**Concerto for String Quartet and
Orchestra in B flat**

20:36

1 Largo-Allegro

5:07

2 Largo

3:10

3 Allegretto grazioso

6:35

4 Hornpipe

5:44

Suite for Piano, Op. 25

13:17

5 Präludium

1:00

6 Gavotte-Musette-Gavotte

3:09

7 Intermezzo

3:11

8 Menuett; Trio; Menuett da capo 3:22

9 Gigue 2:35

10 Lied der Waldtaube*
from *Gurre-Lieder* 12:56

11-25 The Book of the Hanging
Gardens, Op. 15* 26:38

26 A Conversation with
Arnold Schoenberg 6:31

Christopher Oldfather, Piano • Jennifer Lane, Mezzo-Soprano*
Fred Sherry String Quartet • Twentieth Century Classics Ensemble
Robert Craft

Full recording details can be found on page 2 of the booklet

Booklet Notes: Robert Craft

Cover Picture: *Destination* by Ulrich Osterloh (www.osterlohart.de) (courtesy of the artist)

The text of *Lied der Waldtaube* can be found at www.naxos.com/libretti/waldtaube



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Playing Time
79:59



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