

Sir Hamilton Harty was the foremost Irish composer of the early twentieth century, as well as a brilliant pianist and conductor. Many of his works, such as *An Irish Symphony* and *With the Wild Geese*, recorded on Naxos 8.554732, are overtly Celtic in character, with titles and programmes that proclaim their Irishness. The romantic *Piano Concerto*, retains the influence of Irish folk-music through its beguiling counter-melodies and air of lingering melancholy. The rarely heard *Fantasy Scenes (From an Eastern Romance)* paints a sumptuous 'Arabian Nights' picture of the East, as made popular at the time by Rimsky-Korsakov's *Scheherazade*.

Sir Hamilton
HARTY
(1879–1941)



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|---|---|--------------|
| 1 | A Comedy Overture | 13:08 |
| | Fantasy Scenes (from an Eastern Romance) | 11:56 |
| 2 | The Laughing Juggler | 3:51 |
| 3 | A Dancer's Reverie | 2:59 |
| 4 | Lonely in Moonlight | 2:37 |
| 5 | In the Slave Market | 2:29 |
| | Piano Concerto in B minor | 30:05 |
| 6 | Allegro risoluto | 11:03 |
| 7 | Tranquillo e calmo | 8:57 |
| 8 | Con brio e vivace | 10:05 |

Peter Donohoe, Piano
Ulster Orchestra • Takuo Yuasa

Recorded in the Ulster Hall, Belfast, UK, from 21st to 22nd February, 2005

Producer: Tim Handley • Engineer: Phil Rowlands

Publishers: Track 1 (Universal Edition); Tracks 2-8: Manuscript courtesy of the Special Collection, Main Library, Queen's University, Belfast

Booklet Notes: David Greer • Cover Picture: *Playing on the Shingle, 1885*

by Walter Frederick Osborne (1859-1903) (Private Collection / Bridgeman Art Library)



8.557731

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Playing Time
55:09



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