

Although best known for symphonic poems such as *Tintagel*, Bax also wrote prolifically for the piano, his instrument from the first. While the four large-scale piano sonatas are the backbone of Bax's piano music (Naxos 8.557439 and 8.557592), there is also a varied repertoire of shorter pieces. These include highly atmospheric miniatures (some not quite so miniature), many of them technically in the shadow of Debussy or Scriabin. Among these is a succession of pieces written for the eighteen-year-old Harriet Cohen, the intoxicating *The Princess's Rose Garden* and *The Maiden with the Daffodil*, (its score marked 'fresh and innocent' by the composer), and *Mountain Mood*, a melody with variations.

Arnold  
**BAX**  
(1883-1953)  
**Piano Works • 3**

- |                                       |              |  |              |
|---------------------------------------|--------------|--|--------------|
| <b>1</b> What the Minstrel Told Us    | <b>11:03</b> | <b>7</b> The Princess's Rose Garden          | <b>7:23</b>  |
| <b>2</b> A Mountain Mood              | <b>5:38</b>  | <b>Two Russian Tone Poems</b>                | <b>16:39</b> |
| <b>3</b> The Maiden with the Daffodil | <b>4:20</b>  | <b>8</b> Nocturne – May Night in the Ukraine | <b>10:16</b> |
| <b>4</b> Pæan                         | <b>3:38</b>  | <b>9</b> Gopak                               | <b>6:23</b>  |
| <b>5</b> A Hill Tune                  | <b>4:15</b>  | <b>10</b> Lullaby                            | <b>4:27</b>  |
| <b>6</b> Mediterranean                | <b>3:06</b>  | <b>11</b> Sleepy-Head                        | <b>5:28</b>  |

**Ashley Wass, Piano**

Recorded in Pottton Hall, Suffolk, UK, from 17th to 19th January, 2005  
 Producer and Engineer: Michael Ponder • Booklet Notes: Lewis Foreman  
 Publishers: OUP (track 1) • Chappell Music (tracks 2-11)

Cover Painting: *The Rose Pergola*, Blackhurst House, Kent, by Ernest Arthur Rowe (1862-1922)  
 (Mallett Gallery, London/Bridgeman Art Library, London)



8.557769

DDD

Playing Time  
65:57



© & © 2006 Naxos Rights International Ltd.  
 Booklet notes in English  
 Kommentar auf Deutsch  
 Made in the EU  
[www.naxos.com](http://www.naxos.com)