



8.557819

Playing Time
52:51

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Well known in his native Japan as a composer of over 100 film scores, including the *The Seven Samurai*, and acknowledged by Takemitsu as one of his most formative influences, Humiwo Hayasaka sought to combine common elements of Western gregorian chant and Oriental, Gagaku-like melodies. His 1948 *Piano Concerto* is written in a romantic style suggestive of Chopin and Rachmaninov. The first movement is a requiem for his brother and an elegy for the victims of World War II. By way of contrast, the second movement is light-hearted and played staccato almost throughout. *Ancient Dances on the Left and on the Right* takes its inspiration from ancient Japanese courtly dance music, *Bugaku*, while the *Overture in D* moves forward relentlessly to a *furioso* conclusion that recalls the music of Stravinsky and of Hayasaka's friend and fellow composer Akira Ifukube (Naxos 8.555071 and 8.557587).

Humiwo
HAYASAKA
(1914-1955)

Piano Concerto (1948) *	32:41
① Lento	22:22
② Rondo	10:19
③ Ancient Dances on the Left and on the Right (1941)	10:39
④ Overture in D (1939)	9:32

Hiromi Okada, Piano *
Russian Philharmonic Orchestra • Dmitry Yablonsky

Recorded at Studio 5 of the Russian State TV & Radio Company Kultura, Moscow,
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[The National Museum of Modern Art, Tokyo]