

The works on this recording span Varèse's entire career, containing his sole surviving early composition, *Un grand Sommeil noir*, and his last, unfinished work, *Nocturnal*, brilliantly and seamlessly completed by the composer's disciple and assistant during the last seventeen years of his life, the composer Chou Wen-Chung. Chiefly, though, the recording features the original version of *Amériques*, for a massive orchestra of 155 players, recorded immediately following a rare public performance at the Warsaw Philharmonic (only its second since the 1920s) as part of the 2005 Warsaw Autumn Festival.

Edgard VARÈSE

(1883-1965)

Orchestral Works • 2

- | | | |
|---|---|-------|
| 1 | <i>Amériques</i> (original version 1921) | 23:55 |
| 2 | <i>Écuatorial</i> (1932-34) ^{3, 4} | 10:27 |
| 3 | <i>Nocturnal</i> (1961) ^{1, 4} | 9:24 |
| 4 | <i>Dance for Burgess</i> (1949) | 1:44 |
| 5 | <i>Tuning Up</i> (1947) | 4:50 |
| 6 | <i>Hyperprism</i> (1922-23) | 3:48 |
| 7 | <i>Un grand Sommeil noir</i> (1906) ^{1, 5} | 2:59 |
| 8 | <i>Density 21.5</i> (1936) ² | 4:43 |
| 9 | <i>Ionisation</i> (1929-31) | 5:24 |

Elizabeth Watts, Soprano ¹ • Maria Grochowska, Flute ²

Thomas Bloch, Ondes Martenot ³

Men's Voices of Camerata Silesia (Anna Szostak: Artistic Director) ⁴

Polish National Radio Symphony Orchestra ^{1-6, 9}

Christopher Lyndon-Gee, Piano ⁵ and Conductor

A detailed track list can be found on page 2 of the booklet

Available sung texts and translations are included, and may also be accessed at

www.naxos.com/libretti/557882.htm

Recorded at Grzegorz Fitelberg Hall, Katowice, Poland, on 23rd and 24th September, 2005 (track 1), 4th November, 2005 (tracks 4-6), 5th November, 2005 (tracks 7-9), 6th November, 2005 (track 3), 7th November, 2005 (Track 2) • Producer: Beata Jankowska-Burzynska • Engineer: Wojciech Marzec
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Playing Time
67:14



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