

Playing
Time:
66:45

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CHARLES TOMLINSON GRIFFES

(1884-1920)

Complete Piano Works, Volume 1

Michael Lewin, Pianist

Sonata (1917-18, revised 1919) (14:28)

- ① I. Feroce; Allegretto con moto (6:37)
② II. Molto tranquillo (3:26) ③ III. Allegro vivace (4:23)

Three Tone-Pictures, Opus 5 (1910-1915) (7:55)

- ④ The Lake at Evening (3:21) ⑤ The Vale of Dreams (2:45)
⑥ The Night Winds (1:41)

De Profundis (1915)

- ⑦ Tempo rubato (5:02)

Roman Sketches, Opus 7 (1915-1916) (18:29)

- ⑧ The White Peacock (5:11) ⑨ Nightfall (5:48)
⑩ The Fountains of Acqua Paola (3:16) ⑪ Clouds (4:01)

A Winter Landscape (1912)

- ⑫ Lento e mesto (4:13) *First Recorded Performance

Rhapsody in B minor (1912-1914)

- ⑬ With great freedom (6:40)

⑭ Barcarolle ("Belle Nuit, o Nuit d'Amour") from Offenbach's "Les Contes d'Hoffmann (Transcription, c.1910)

- *First Recorded Performance (3:47)

Legend in F sharp minor (1915)

- ⑮ Moderato (2:49)

Prelude in B minor (1899-1900)

- ⑯ Andante (2:26) *First Recorded Performance

Recorded at Fisher Hall, Santa Rosa, California, from 7th to 9th of June 1995,
by courtesy of Suzanne and George Ledin Jr.

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Music Notes: Michael Lewin ⑭ and ⑯ Unpublished.

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[Courtesy of Donna K. Anderson] 8th to 9th of June 1

Art Director: Nik Pristouris · Project Coordinator: Joshua Cheek



AMERICAN CLASSICS

The Composer

Despite his premature death at age 35, Charles Tomlinson Griffes was one of the most prophetic voices in American music. The shy and sensitive Griffes was drawn to all things beautiful and was himself, a talented painter. One of his watercolors appears on the cover. His musical style evolved rapidly from the German academicism of his teachers to the exotic influences of impressionism and the Orient, which are to be found in his mature works.

The Works

Included on this first volume of the complete Piano Works of Griffes, are three CD premiers: the Chopinesque *B Minor Prelude*, dating from the composer's fifteenth year, the Wagnerian *A Winter Landscape*, composed around 1912 and a beguiling arrangement of Offenbach's famous Barcarolle. The rest of the program traces Griffes' phenomenal path from late Romanticism (*De Profundis*, *Rhapsody in B minor*), through impressionism (*Three Tone Pictures*, *Op. 5*, *Roman Sketches*, *Op. 7*) to his "shockingly original" *Piano Sonata* of 1919.

