

Playing
Time:
73:59

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George ROCHBERG

(b. 1918)

Boston Modern Orchestra Project • Gil Rose
Mary Nessinger, Mezzo-Soprano*

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|----|---|-------|
| 1 | Black Sounds (Music for the ballet " <i>The Act</i> ") | 17:24 |
| | Cantio Sacra "Warum betrübst du dich, mein Herz"
(transcription for small orchestra of organ music of S. Scheidt) | |
| 2 | Versus. Choralis in Cantu | 2:08 |
| 3 | Versus. Choralis in Cantu | 1:24 |
| 4 | Versus. Choralis in Tenore | 0:49 |
| 5 | Versus. Choralis in Cantu | 0:59 |
| 6 | Versus. Choralis in Cantu | 1:13 |
| 7 | Versus. Biemium contrapuntamento duplici | 1:31 |
| 8 | Versus. Choralis in Cantu | 0:46 |
| 9 | Versus. Choralis in Tenore | 1:12 |
| 10 | Versus. Choralis in Basso | 1:08 |
| 11 | Versus. Choralis in Basso | 0:53 |
| 12 | Versus. Choralis in Cantu | 1:07 |
| 13 | Versus. Choralis in Cantu Colorato | 0:57 |
| | Phaedra* : A Monodrama in seven scenes | |
| 14 | Aria: "In May, in brilliant Athens" | 5:58 |
| 15 | Orchestral Interlude: Black Sails | 4:10 |
| 16 | Aria: "You monster!" | 4:36 |
| 17 | Orchestral Interlude: Theseus' homecoming | 5:06 |
| 18 | Supplication: "Thesus, I heard the deluge of your voice" | 5:49 |
| 19 | Cabaletta: "My last calamity has come" | 8:25 |
| 20 | Orchestral Postlude: The Death of Hippolytus | 8:10 |

Recorded at Jordan Hall, New England Conservatory of Music,
Boston, Massachusetts, USA, from 18th to 20th October, 1998.

This recording was funded in part by a grant from the Ellis L. Phillips Foundation.
American Classics Series Producers: Marina and Victor Ledin
Produced by Joel Gordon and Gil Rose • Recording Engineer: Joel Gordon
Publisher: Theodore Presser Company
American flag, folk artist, 1880s.

Cover art: *Lightning over a Mountain Range* (Getty Images)



AMERICAN CLASSICS

George Rochberg is one of the more controversial figures in American music partly because his compositional method was so varied. Mid-century, he embraced 20th century serialism, but he later wrote in a modern style incorporating traditional tonality into his works. The dramatic *Black Sounds* (1965) concerns the act of murder and is unrelenting in intensity and dark in its gesture. The result is a total chromaticized texture, though not necessarily atonal. In contrast, the *Cantio Sacra* embraces the baroque musical form of the chorale with transcriptions for small orchestra of Scheidt's organ variations on a chorale tune. The essence of the ancient, terrible, but all-too-human drama of *Phaedra* lends itself well to musical setting in Rochberg's monodrama.

This recording was supervised by
the composer, George Rochberg.

Booklet notes in English
Kommentar auf Deutsch
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