

Playing
Time:
63:08

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COMPACT
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DIGITAL AUDIO

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NAXOS

AARON COPLAND

(1900-1990)

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|---|--------------------------------|--------------|
| 1 | Piano Fantasy (1955-57) | 29:19 |
| | Piano Sonata (1939-41) | 21:56 |
| 2 | I Molto moderato | 7:59 |
| 3 | II Vivace | 5:00 |
| 4 | III Andante sostenuto | 8:57 |
| 5 | Piano Variations (1930) | 11:53 |

Benjamin Pasternack, Piano

Recorded at the The Toronto Centre for the Arts, Toronto, Ontario, Canada, from 19th to 20th August, 2003.

Producers: Bonnie Silver & Norbert Kraft
Engineer: Norbert Kraft • Editor: Bonnie Silver
Booklet Notes: Richard Whitehouse

Cover Image: *Red Landscape 1945 no. 5* by Vance Kirkland (American artist, 1904-81) (Courtesy of Vance Kirkland Studio, Denver, Colorado, U.S.A.)
American flag, folk artist, 1880s



AMERICAN CLASSICS

Solo piano music was as important to Aaron Copland as his more widely known and recorded orchestral music. Copland's first major work for the instrument, the *Piano Variations*, was Bernstein's favourite piano work as a Harvard undergraduate. Variouslly described as "craggy" and "granitic", it was considered by Copland himself to have a "rightness", and he gave its première performance. The *Piano Sonata (1939-41)* is among Copland's most personal and profound statements, the rhythms of its dynamic central movement inspired by jazz. The single-movement *Piano Fantasy*, one of Copland's most evocative and virtuosic works in any genre, was likened by the composer himself to "a spontaneous and unpremeditated sequence of 'events' that would carry the listener irresistibly (if possible) from first note to last."

Booklet notes in English
Kommentar auf Deutsch

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