

Playing
Time:
43:31

PETER BOYER (b. 1970)

Ellis Island: The Dream of America

1	Prologue	6:09
2	Words of Helen Cohen, emigrated from Poland in 1920, read by Blair Brown	2:37
3	Interlude 1	1:24
4	Words of James Apanomith, emigrated from Greece in 1911, read by Louis Zorich	2:43
5	Interlude 2	2:07
6	Words of Lillian Galleta, emigrated from Italy in 1928, read by Olympia Dukakis	3:32
7	Interlude 3	1:33
8	Words of Lazarus Salamon, emigrated from Hungary in 1920, read by Eli Wallach	4:16
9	Interlude 4	1:56
10	Words of Helen Rosenthal, emigrated from Belgium in 1940, read by Bebe Neuwirth	4:27
11	Interlude 5	1:01
12	Words of Manny Steen, emigrated from Ireland in 1925, read by Barry Bostwick	4:42
13	Interlude 6	2:24
14	Words of Katherine Beychock, emigrated from Russia in 1910, read by Anne Jackson	2:53
15	Epilogue: "The New Colossus" (Emma Lazarus, 1883), read by all actors	1:50

Philharmonia Orchestra conducted by Peter Boyer

Actors directed by Martin Charnin

Texts from the Ellis Island Oral History Project

Produced by Peter Boyer
Orchestra recorded at Air Studios, London, February 16, 2003
Recording engineer: Geoff Foster
Assistant engineer: Jake Jackson
Actors recorded at Magic Venture Studio, New York City,
September 17-19, 2003

Recording engineer: Brian McGee
Edited by Peter Boyer and Geoff Foster
Mixed by Casey Stone, Ed Kalnins, and Peter Boyer
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American flag, folk artist, 1880s

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What was it like to be one of the millions of immigrants coming to America through Ellis Island early in the 20th century? Peter Boyer's *Ellis Island: The Dream of America* brings that experience to life in a unique and powerful way. This work combines elements of symphonic music, theatre and history to celebrate the American immigrant experience. Boyer chose stories from the Ellis Island Oral History Project, wove them together into a narrative describing the hopes, dreams and struggles of these individuals, and composed dramatic and evocative symphonic music which frames and amplifies these stories. A cast of renowned stage and screen actors joins with symphony orchestra in bringing to life the actual words of these real American immigrants. The work closes with a stirring reading of Emma Lazarus's *The New Colossus* ("Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free..."), the classic poem inscribed on the base of the Statue of Liberty.

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