



## AMERICAN CLASSICS

Stephen Albert's music is at once traditional and contemporary, lyrical yet powerful and dynamic. He drew inspiration from the rich orchestral palettes of composers such as Stravinsky and Bartók, but his musical language is very much his own. At the time of his tragic and unexpected death in 1992, Albert had completed the first draft of his lush, evocative *Symphony No. 2*, which here receives its world première recording. Asked by Albert's publishers to complete the work, his colleague and friend Sebastian Currier was pleased to find it almost finished, with only the addition of expressive markings and some orchestration to undertake. It is coupled here with Albert's Pulitzer Prize-winning first symphony, *RiverRun*, one of many of his works inspired by the writings of James Joyce. As Currier writes in his booklet note, "Although one could endlessly wonder what his *Third Symphony* might be like, in the end it is great to have these two thoughtful, finely crafted and expressive pieces."

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Stephen  
**ALBERT**  
(1941-1992)

**Symphony No. 1 'RiverRun'** 33:44

<b>1</b>	I. Rain Music	7:52
<b>2</b>	II. Leafy Speafing	8:47
<b>3</b>	III. Beside the Rivering Waters	6:57
<b>4</b>	IV. Rivers End	10:08

**Symphony No. 2 \*** 30:40

<b>5</b>	Movement I	13:00
<b>6</b>	Movement II	5:00
<b>7</b>	Movement III	12:40

**\*World Première Recording**

**\*Orchestration completed by Sebastian Currier**

**Russian Philharmonic Orchestra**  
**Paul Polivnick**

Dedicated to the memory of Steve Albert and Sidney Albert  
Recorded at Studio 5 of the Russian State TV & Radio Company  
Kultura, Moscow, from 20th to 24th April, 2005

Producer: Lubov Doronina • Engineers: Alexander Karasev and  
Gennady Trabantov • Editor: Pavel Lavrenenkov

Booklet notes: Stephen Albert, Sebastian Currier and Ron Petrides

Publisher: G. Schirmer, Inc.

Cover photograph of Stephen Albert by Mark Karlsberg / Studio Eleven

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ALBERT: Symphonies Nos. 1 and 2

NAXOS

Playing  
Time:  
**64:24**

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WORLD PREMIERE  
RECORDING

**DDD**

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