

Playing
Time:
73:05

All rights in this sound recording, artwork, texts and translations reserved. Unauthorised public performance, broadcasting and copying of this compact disc prohibited. © & © 2008 Naxos Rights International Ltd. Disc made in Canada. Printed and assembled in USA.



8.559360



**Frederic
RZEWSKI**
(b. 1938)

**1 The People United Will
Never Be Defeated! (1975)**

(36 Variations on *¡El Pueblo Unido
Jamás Será Vencido!*)

62:30

**2 Four North American Ballads:
No. 4. Winnsboro Cotton
Mill Blues (1979)**

10:35

Ralph van Raat, Piano

This recording was made possible, in part,
by the Fortis Mees Pierson Award
of the Concertgebouw, Amsterdam

Recorded at Bachzaal, Amsterdam,
on 21st and 22nd April, 2007

Producer and Engineer: Rawyn Productions

Editor: Arjan de Reus (BFN)

Publisher: Zen-on Music Co., Ltd.

Booklet notes: Ralph van Raat

Cover photograph: *Team* by Darrenw (dreamstime.com)



AMERICAN CLASSICS

The People United Will Never Be Defeated! by the left-wing composer and pianist Frederic Rzewski is a landmark in American piano literature. The work comprises 36 variations on a protest song of the same name by the Chilean composer Sergio Ortega. Almost every bar is laden with pianistic virtuosity, yet the listener is carried through some very complex music in a wholly natural way. The variations themselves all symbolize the different phases and aspects of a struggle: from angry, highly-energized modernism, via melancholic references to blues, calculated dense polyphony and nostalgic folk-music to written-out free jazz passages. Rzewski's popular *Winnsboro Cotton Mill Blues*, written in 1979 as part of the set *North American Ballads*, forms a fitting counterpart.

www.naxos.com



6 36943 93602 3