

Playing
Time:
56:24

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DDD



8.559603



William Grant STILL (1895–1978)

Symphony No. 5 'Western Hemisphere' (1945, rev. 1970)

- | | | |
|----------|--------------------------------------|-------------|
| 1 | Briskly | 3:20 |
| 2 | Slower, and with utmost grace | 6:36 |
| 3 | Energetically | 2:48 |
| 4 | Moderately | 6:48 |

5 Poem for Orchestra (1944) **10:27**

Symphony No. 4 'Autochthonous' (1947) **26:15**

- | | | |
|----------|------------------------------|--------------|
| 6 | Moderately | 6:08 |
| 7 | Slowly | 6:54 |
| 8 | With a graceful lilt | 3:03 |
| 9 | Slowly and reverently | 10:04 |

Fort Smith Symphony John Jeter

This recording was made possible in part by a grant from the Department of Arkansas Heritage and the Fort Smith Convention and Visitor's Bureau.

Recorded at The Arkansas Best Corporation Performing Arts Center, Fort Smith, Arkansas, USA, 23–24 May 2009

Producer & Engineer: Tim Handley

Publishing: William Grant Still Music (Symphony No. 5), Theodore Presser Co. (Poem), Carl Fischer (Symphony No. 4)

Cover painting: *Crossing America in an express train, United States* (1859) by Nathaniel Currier and James Merritt Ives (The Art Archive/Bibliothèque des Arts Décoratifs Paris/Alfredo Dagli Orti) • American flag, folk artist, 1880s



AMERICAN CLASSICS

Often referred to as the 'dean of African-American composers', William Grant Still received many honours for his pioneering music for the concert platform, film and television. Still's most distinctive works use African-American forms such as the blues, spirituals and jazz within a neo-romantic idiom. He declared that his *Fourth Symphony* was 'intended to represent the spirit of the American people', an idée fixe unifying its four contrasting movements into an appealing whole. His triumphant *Fifth Symphony* celebrates 'the sharing of resources and achievements' which the composer saw as the key to America's greatness.

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