



AMERICAN CLASSICS

Pulitzer Prize-winning African-American composer George Walker enjoys exploring the possibilities offered by different combinations of voice types and instrumental sonorities. His songs belong among the finest of any contemporary composer, *Lyric for Strings* is one of the most frequently performed works by an American composer, and *Poem* was declared a masterpiece after its première in 1987. Encouraged by Nadia Boulanger, Walker has assimilated serialism, neo-classicism and African-American music into a personal style, gaining him recognition as a true elder statesman of contemporary classical music.

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George
WALKER
(b. 1922)

Chamber Music and Songs

- | | | |
|-----------|--------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|
| 1 | String Quartet No. 2 (1968) | 22:01 |
| 2 | Poem (for soprano and chamber ensemble) (1987) | 15:36 |
| 3 | Lyric for Strings (version for string quartet) (1946) | 6:25 |
| 4 | Five Fancies (1974) | 9:30 |
| 5 | Modus (for chamber ensemble) (2001) | 9:12 |
| 6 | I Never Saw a Moor (1986) | 2:01 |
| 7 | Response (1940) | 2:26 |
| 8 | Mother Goose (Circa 2054) (1992) | 1:21 |
| 9 | Take, O Take Those Lips Away (2004) | 2:39 |
| 10 | And Wilt Thou Leave Me Thus (2002) | 3:10 |

Janet Stasio, Soprano **2**

Patricia Green, Mezzo-soprano **6-8**

James Martin, Baritone **9-10**

Son Sonora String Quartet **1 3**

Capitol Chamber Artists **2**

Videmus Ensemble **4**

Cygnus Ensemble **5**

George Walker, Piano **6-10**

A detailed list of artists and recording details can be found on pages 2 and 3 of the booklet

Available sung texts can be accessed at www.naxos.com/libretti/559659.htm

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Booklet notes: George Walker

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Playing
Time:
74:23

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