

Playing
Time:
61:39

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William Grant
STILL
(1895-1978)

Wood Notes (1947)*

- | | | |
|----------|---|-------------|
| 1 | I. Singing River (Moderately slow) | 6:46 |
| 2 | II. Autumn Night (Lightly) | 2:49 |
| 3 | III. Moon Dusk (Slowly and expressively) | 4:27 |
| 4 | IV. Whippoorwill's Shoes (Humorously) | 2:30 |

**Symphony No. 2 in G minor
'Song of a New Race' (1937) 27:05**

- | | | |
|----------|-----------------------------|-------------|
| 5 | I. Slowly | 8:56 |
| 6 | II. Slowly | 7:19 |
| 7 | III. Moderately fast | 3:37 |
| 8 | IV. Moderately slow | 7:13 |

**Symphony No. 3
'The Sunday Symphony' (1958) 18:01**

- | | | |
|-----------|---|-------------|
| 9 | I. Awakening (Moderately fast) | 3:48 |
| 10 | II. Prayer (Very slow) | 6:34 |
| 11 | III. Relaxation (Gaily) | 2:30 |
| 12 | IV. Day's End and a New Beginning (Resolutely) | 5:09 |

***WORLD PREMIERE RECORDING**

Fort Smith Symphony • John Jeter

Recorded on 17th and 18th April, 2011, at Arkansas Best Corporation Performing Arts Center, Fort Smith, Arkansas, USA

Produced and engineered by Tim Handley

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AMERICAN CLASSICS

The life and career of the African-American composer William Grant Still qualifies as the quintessential American 'success story.' Often referred to as the 'dean of African-American composers,' Still rose from humble beginnings to work as an arranger while studying composition with Chadwick and Varèse. Still embraced the blues, spirituals, jazz, and other ethnic American musics within classical forms. *Wood Notes* musically depicts Still's love of nature. *Symphony No. 2*, the last of a trilogy of works depicting the African-American experience, presents the vision of an integrated American society, while *Symphony No. 3* describes a spiritual 'day in the life' of a devout worshipper. This disc completes the Naxos cycle of William Grant Still's Symphonies.

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