

8.559698

Playing
Time:
56:19

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PAUL MORAVEC: Useful Knowledge



COMPACT
DISC
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A detailed track list and recording details
can be found inside the booklet.

Available sung texts can be accessed at
www.naxos.com/libretti/559698.htm

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Cover painting: *Benjamin Franklin* by David Martin (1737-1797)
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Paul
MORAVEC
(b. 1957)

Useful Knowledge

1-5	Vita Brevis (version for soprano and piano trio) (2009)	¹	14:52
6-12	Characteristics (1996)	²	22:35
13	Useful Knowledge: A Franklin Fantasy (2006)	³	18:51

WORLD PREMIERE RECORDINGS

Amy Burton, Soprano¹

Trio Solisti¹

Maria Bachmann, Violin • Alexis Pia Gerlach, Cello

Jon Klibonoff, Piano

Simon Mulligan, Piano²

Randall Scarlata, Baritone³

La Fenice³

Peggy Pearson, Oboe • Catherine Cho, Violin

Mark Holloway, Viola

Marcy Rosen, Cello • Diane Walsh, Piano

Cecilia Brauer, Glass harmonica³



AMERICAN CLASSICS

This program of musical portraits by Pulitzer Prize-winner Paul Moravec encompasses a song cycle, a cantata and a solo piano work. *Vita Brevis* is a beautiful cycle of five songs that chart a birth-to-death journey, whereas *Characteristics* enshrines tributes from the composer to seven musical friends, three pianists, two composers, a violinist and a countertenor, in the form of pithy piano commentaries. Moravec's tribute to Benjamin Franklin, *Useful Knowledge*, is a soliloquy cum fantasy that celebrates Franklin's pioneering rationality with music of dexterous imagination.

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