

Playing  
Time:  
**62:13**

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8.559759



# Frederic RZEWSKI

(b. 1938)

## Four Pieces (1977)

- |   |               |              |
|---|---------------|--------------|
| 1 | <b>No. 1.</b> | <b>8:38</b>  |
| 2 | <b>No. 2.</b> | <b>5:52</b>  |
| 3 | <b>No. 3.</b> | <b>11:34</b> |
| 4 | <b>No. 4.</b> | <b>6:53</b>  |

## Hard Cuts (2011)\* **19:25**

(for Ralph van Raat and Lunapark)

- |   |                       |             |
|---|-----------------------|-------------|
| 5 | <b>I.</b>             | <b>6:36</b> |
| 6 | <b>II. –</b>          | <b>3:54</b> |
| 7 | <b>III. Like bees</b> | <b>8:55</b> |

## 8 The Housewife's Lament (1980) **9:53**

## Ralph van Raat, Piano

**\*Lunapark • \*Arnold Marinissen**

Recorded at Sweelinckzaal, Amsterdam, the Netherlands,  
on 10th and 11th August, 2011 (tracks 1-4, 8),  
and at Vredenburg Leeuwenberghkerk, Utrecht,  
the Netherlands, on 29th February, 2013 (tracks 5-7)

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Booklet notes: Ralph van Raat

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AMERICAN CLASSICS

Frederic Rzewski is most celebrated for his virtuosic variations for piano, *The People United Will Never Be Defeated!* (8.559360). The *Four Pieces* began as a sequel to that breath-taking work, but whilst sharing certain similarities – Andean dance rhythms and tremendous drama – it occupies its own very distinct sound world, offering a compound of intense lyricism, shattering darkness, and hints of revolutionary fervour. *The Housewife's Lament* is a set of variations on a 19th-century tune by an anonymous composer with strong influences of Beethoven. The punning title *Hard Cuts* refers to cuts both budgetary and musical, and Rzewski's signature elements appear throughout: folk rhythms, pointillist clarity, minimalism, and unique craftsmanship.

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