



## 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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# Frederic RZEWINSKI

(b. 1938)

## Four Pieces (1977) 32:57

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

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

(for Ralph van Raat and Lunapark)

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

## 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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Playing Time:  
**62:13**

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