

Playing
Time:
69:04

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Florence Beatrice
PRICE
(1887–1953)

Symphonies Nos. 1 and 4

1	Symphony No. 1 in E minor (1932)	37:22
2	I. Allegro ma non troppo	16:36
3	II. Largo, maestoso	12:11
4	III. Juba Dance	3:36
5	IV. Finale	4:45
6	Symphony No. 4 in D minor (1945)*	31:34
7	I. Tempo moderato	15:10
8	II. Andante cantabile	5:40
9	III. Juba Dance	5:13
10	IV. Scherzo	5:24

***WORLD PREMIERE RECORDING**

Fort Smith Symphony
John Jeter

Recorded: 13–14 May 2018 at ArcBest Performing Arts Center,
Fort Smith, Arkansas, USA

Producer, engineer and editor: Tim Handley

Booklet notes: Douglas Shadale

Publisher: G. Schirmer, Inc.

Special thanks to Mercy Fort Smith, the University of Arkansas
Libraries Special Collections, Dr. James Greeson and
Miho Sasaki.

Cover: Portrait of Florence Price

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Colorized by Olga Shirnina



AMERICAN CLASSICS

Florence Price was born in Little Rock, Arkansas and studied at the New England Conservatory, but it was in Chicago that her composing career accelerated. The concert in 1933 at which her *Symphony No. 1 in E minor* was premiered was the first time a major American orchestra had performed a piece written by an African American woman. Influenced by Dvořák and Coleridge-Taylor, she drew on the wellspring of Negro spirituals and vernacular dances, full of lyricism and syncopation. The *Symphony No. 4 in D minor* demonstrates her tight ensemble writing, her distinct sense of orchestral color, her Ellingtonian ‘jungle style’ language and her penchant for the ‘juba’ dance.

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