

Playing  
Time:  
**62:32**

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DDD

COMPACT  
disc  
DIGITAL AUDIO

8.559911

NAXOS

Aaron  
**COPLAND**  
(1900–1990)

1–3 **The Tender Land Suite (1958)** 18:38

Paul  
**CRESTON**  
(1906–1985)

4–6 **Saxophone Concerto, Op. 26 (1941)\*** 18:52

Ulysses  
**KAY**  
(1917–1995)

7 **Pietà (1950)\*** 8:40

Walter  
**PISTON**  
(1894–1976)

8–18 **The Incredible Flutist Suite (1940)** 16:10

\*WORLD PREMIERE RECORDING

**Anna Mattix, English Horn** 7

**Timothy McAllister, Alto Saxophone** 4–6

**National Orchestral  
Institute Philharmonic**

**JoAnn Falletta**

A detailed track list and full recording and publishing  
information can be found inside the booklet  
Booklet notes: Frank K. DeWald  
Special thanks to Charles Lilley  
Cover photo by Demian Tejada Benitez



AMERICAN CLASSICS

This recording brings together four extraordinary mid-20th-century composers who helped shape America's musical destiny. Aaron Copland's *The Tender Land* is a moving tribute to the American rancher and farmer. It forms a profound celebration of those unsung heroes of that country's landscape, and is perhaps his greatest expression of the preciousness of life. Walter Piston is represented by his colorful and beguiling *The Incredible Flutist*, which depicts a traveling circus led by a magical musician who is able to heal the sorrows of those who hear his music. The two premiere recordings here are the original orchestral version of Paul Creston's thrilling *Saxophone Concerto*, and Ulysses Kay's *Pietà* – a beautiful elegy inspired by Michelangelo's masterpiece.

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