

Sibelius's first set of *Scènes historiques* forms a suite taken from music for a patriotic pageant, staged in 1899 at a time of increasing Finnish nationalism and originally including *Finlandia*, which was published separately. For his *Scènes Historiques II* Sibelius composed new music. In the opening *The Chase*, horns are heard through the mist, followed by the wild chase, with its impelling rhythms. The incidental music for Adolf Paul's play *King Christian II*, set in the 16th century, deals with the King's love of a commoner, her murder by a jealous rival and the King's bloodthirsty revenge. It includes a strongly-felt love scene, *Nocturne*, with many elements characteristic of the composer's future musical language.

Jean  
**SIBELIUS**  
(1865-1957)

<b>Scènes historiques I, Op. 25</b>	<b>18:12</b>
① All'Overtura: Grave – Allegro	4:43
② Scena: Tempo di menuetto	5:52
③ Festivo: Tempo di Bolero	7:37
<b>Scènes historiques II, Op. 66</b>	<b>19:42</b>
④ The Chase (Overture): Andante – Allegro con brio	7:22
⑤ Love Song: Largo	5:32
⑥ At the Drawbridge: Allegro moderato	6:49
<b>King Christian II Suite, Op. 27</b>	<b>25:34</b>
⑦ Nocturne: Molto moderato	7:29
⑧ Elégie: Andante sostenuto	5:40
⑨ Musette: Allegretto	2:19
⑩ Serenade: Moderato assai (Quasi menuetto)	4:45
⑪ Ballade: Allegro molto	5:20

New Zealand Symphony Orchestra • Pietari Inkinen

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**NAXOS**

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Playing Time  
63:28



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