

A Symphony in all but name, Zemlinsky's lavishly scored 'symphonic fantasy' *Die Seejungfrau* (1903) is his most frequently performed large-scale work beside the *Lyric Symphony* (Naxos 8.572048). Based on Hans Christian Andersen's fairy tale of the mermaid who sacrifices herself out of unrequited love for a prince, the work places greater emphasis on thematic development than on mere illustration. Written over three decades later, when Zemlinsky's music was taking on a more astringent manner, the *Sinfonietta* is remarkable for its nervous energy, anguished passion and sheer virtuosity.

Alexander von
ZEMMLINSKY
(1871–1942)

Sinfonietta, Op. 23 (1934)

22:01

- | | | |
|---|---|------|
| 1 | Sehr lebhaft | 9:02 |
| 2 | Ballade: Sehr gemessen, doch nicht schleppend | 7:15 |
| 3 | Sehr lebhaft | 5:29 |

**Die Seejungfrau (The Mermaid) –
Symphonic Fantasy (1903)**

41:06

- | | | |
|---|--|-------|
| 4 | Sehr mäßig bewegt | 15:30 |
| 5 | Sehr bewegt, rauschend | 11:54 |
| 6 | Sehr gedehnt, mit schmerzvollem Ausdruck | 13:27 |



New Zealand Symphony Orchestra
James Judd

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 Baltic sunset (© Santos06 / Dreamstime.com)



8.570240

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Playing Time
63:26



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