

Bax completed five works for piano and orchestra, beginning in 1916 with the highly virtuosic *Symphonic Variations* dedicated to the pianist Harriet Cohen. The work was likened by Rosa Newmarch, who wrote the programme note for the first performance, 'to some great epic poem dealing with the adventures of a hero . . . passing through a number of different experiences.' The *Concertante for Piano (Left Hand) and Orchestra* (1949) is on a smaller scale. The romantic slow movement opens with a beautiful and haunting piano tune which gives way to a brooding atmospheric middle section, coloured by typical Baxian orchestral textures, like swirling mists in a nocturnal vision of some Irish coastal vista.

Sir Arnold
BAX
(1883-1953)

Bournemouth
Symphony
Orchestra
Endowment
Trust

Symphonic Variations

Symphonic Variations (1916-18)

45:49

Part One

1	Theme: Lento espressivo –	2:31
2	I. Youth: Allegro: Restless and tumultuous –	4:11
3	II. Nocturne: Slow and serene: Broadly –	6:36
4	III. Strife: Allegro vivace	

Part Two

5	IV. The Temple: Slow and solemn –	7:39
6	V. Play: Scherzo: Allegro vivace –	9:46
	Intermezzo: Enchantment: Very moderate tempo –	
7	VI. Triumph: Moderate tempo – Glowing and passionate	10:27
		4:39

Concertante for Piano (Left Hand) and Orchestra (1949)

22:22

8	I. Allegro moderato	8:08
9	II. Moderato tranquillo	7:47
10	III. Rondo: Allegro moderato	6:27

Ashley Wass, Piano

Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra • James Judd

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8.570774

Playing Time
68:11



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