

Autobiographical in content, Richard Strauss's *Ein Heldenleben* is one of a series of tone-poems, including *Also sprach Zarathustra* (Naxos 8.571215), in which he explored the utmost limits of extra-musical content in this form. The hero passes through love and adversity, confrontation, triumph in battle and fulfilment in a single, powerfully descriptive symphonic span. Gerard Schwarz's *Ein Heldenleben* has been acclaimed as "exciting and inspired" (*Gramophone*). The opera *Capriccio* is a romantic struggle to choose between words and music which opens with a gloriously bitter-sweet string sextet.



Richard STRAUSS

(1864-1949)

Ein Heldenleben, Op. 40, TrV 190*

1 Parts I-III 44:16

Der Held (The hero) – Des Helden
Widersacher (The hero's enemies)
– Des Helden Gefährtin
(The hero's companion)

2 Parts IV-VI 22:34

Des Helden Walstatt

(The hero's battlefield) – Des Helden
Friedenswerke (The hero's works
of peace) – Des Helden Weltflucht
und Vollendung (The hero's retreat
from the world and fulfilment)

Capriccio – Opera, Op. 85, TrV 279a

3 Sextet 13:22



Ilkka Talvi, Violin*
Seattle Symphony • Gerard Schwarz

Recorded on 22 May 1990 (*Ein Heldenleben*) at the Seattle Center Opera House, USA and
20 January 2009 (*Sextet*) at the Benaroya Hall, Seattle, USA

Executive Producer: Amelia S. Haygood • Recording Producer: Adam Stern

Recording Engineers: Andrew Dawson (*Ein Heldenleben*), Dmitriy Lipay (*Sextet*)

Associate Engineer: Al Swanson (*Ein Heldenleben*) • Assistant Engineer: Li Teo (*Ein Heldenleben*)
Booklet notes by Keith Anderson

Cover photo & inlay photo of Gerard Schwarz by Ben VanHouten

Publishers: Kalmus reprint (*Ein Heldenleben*), Boosey and Hawkes Music Publishers Ltd. (*Sextet*)
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Playing Time
57:38



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