

Naxos continues its reissue of the Marco Polo recordings of Havergal Brian symphonies, of which the *Gothic* (Naxos 8.557418-19) is the most famous, with the inventive, fantasia-like *Symphony No. 17* and the composer's last ever work, the alternately dark and affirmative *Symphony No. 32*, a remarkable achievement for a man of 92. Composed five decades earlier, the extended symphonic poem *In Memoriam*, notable for the 'advanced' nature of its scoring, is contrasted with the exuberant *Festal Dance*, once intended as the finale to an early work the composer had originally entitled *Fantastic Symphony*. Brian's *Symphonies Nos. 11 and 15* are also available (8.572014).

RTÉ

Havergal
BRIAN

(1876-1972)

Symphonies Nos. 17 and 32

Tone Poem:

In Memoriam (1910) 18:50**① Introduction – First Scene 8:57****② Second Scene 5:31****③ Third Scene 4:22****Festal Dance (1908) 6:16****④ Allegro vivo 2:55****⑤ Misterioso 3:20**

Symphony No. 17

(1960-61) 13:36**⑥ Adagio – Allegro moderato 8:33****⑦ Lento 3:19****⑧ Allegro con brio 1:44****Symphony No. 32 (1968) 20:56****⑨ Allegretto 5:43****⑩ Adagio 5:42****⑪ Allegro ma non troppo 4:20****⑫ Allegro moderato 5:09**

RTÉ National Symphony Orchestra • Adrian Leaper

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Recorded in association with the Havergal Brian Society (www.havergalbrian.org) and
The Rex Foundation at the National Concert Hall, Dublin, on 15th and 16th June, 1992

Producer: Garry Carpenter • Booklet notes: Malcolm MacDonald

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Playing Time
59:37

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