

Luís de Freitas Branco was the towering figure in Portuguese music during the first half of the 20th Century. His *Second Symphony* combines elements as disparate as Gregorian chant, the boisterous spirit of a Brucknerian scherzo and the influence of Franck and Debussy into a superbly integrated Romantic work. His tone poem *After a reading of Guerra Junqueiro* was inspired by Richard Strauss, whose opulent orchestrations it echoes. *Artificial Paradises*, an eerie piece inspired by De Quincey's *Confessions of an Opium Eater*, is regarded as Freitas Branco's masterpiece.



Luís de  
**FREITAS BRANCO**  
(1890-1955)



## Orchestral Works • 2

### Symphony No. 2 (1926-27)

43:32

- |   |                                                         |       |
|---|---------------------------------------------------------|-------|
| 1 | I. Andante – Allegro                                    | 11:59 |
| 2 | II. Andantino con moto                                  | 11:04 |
| 3 | III. Allegro vivace                                     | 9:43  |
| 3 | IV. Adagio – Allegro                                    | 10:46 |
| 5 | After a reading of Guerra Junqueiro<br>(Fantasy) (1909) | 10:07 |
| 6 | Artificial Paradises (1910)                             | 14:10 |

### RTÉ National Symphony Orchestra • Álvaro Cassuto

This recording was made with the support of SPA - Sociedade Portuguesa de Autores  
and Jerónimo Martins SGPS, S.A.

Recorded at the National Concert Hall, Dublin, Ireland, on 7th and 8th April and on 18th June, 2008

Producer and editor: Andrew Walton (K&A Productions Ltd.)

Producer (track 6) and engineer: Phil Rowlands

Publisher: Direcção Geral das Artes (track 6) • Unpublished (tracks 1-5)

Booklet notes: Álvaro Cassuto

Cover image: *Torre de Belém, Lisbon, Portugal* by Bruno Medley (Dreamstime.com)

DDD

8.572059

Playing Time  
67:49



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Booklet notes in English  
Disc made in Canada. Printed and assembled in USA.  
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