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Playing Time
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 Booklet Notes in English
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Five vividly contrasting works, four of them in world première recordings, make up this latest issue in the Naxos series of orchestral music by the Italian composer Gian Francesco Malipiero. Visions of heroism and death form the cornerstone of the release, in the *Ditirambo tragico* (Tragic Dithyramb) composed during the First World War, and in Malipiero's two earliest surviving pieces, *Dai sepolcri* (From 'Tombs') and the *Sinfonia degli eroi* (Symphony of Heroes). They are heard alongside the deceptively relaxed charm of *Armenia*, based on traditional Armenian melodies, and the varied, pungently Stravinskian moods of the aptly titled *Grottesco* (Grotesque).



Gian Francesco MALIPIERO

(1882-1973)



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| 1 | Sinfonia degli eroi (Symphony of Heroes, 1905) * | 17:56 |
| 2 | Ditirambo tragico (Tragic Dithyramb, 1917) * | 8:04 |
| 3 | Armenia (1917) * | 4:30 |
| 4 | Grottesco (Grotesque, 1918) | 8:02 |
| 5 | Dai sepolcri (From 'Tombs', 1904) * | 18:31 |

* WORLD PREMIÈRE RECORDINGS

Thessaloniki State Symphony Orchestra Amaury du Closel

Recorded in Aristotle University Concert Hall, Thessaloniki, Greece, 25th-30th June and 2nd-3rd July 2012

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The *Sinfonia degli eroi* (Symphony of Heroes) is the earliest of the seventeen pieces Malipiero called 'Symphony', and the only one that has never previously been recorded.

The others are available as the five-disc series Naxos 8.570878 to 8.570882.