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8.573066

Playing Time  
67:27

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Though he wrote a great deal of church music, and also composed for the theatre, Justin Heinrich Knecht is best remembered for his *Grande Simphonie 'Le Portrait musical de la Nature'*. Elegantly scored and completed in 1785, this eventful five-movement symphonic work of nature-depiction predates Beethoven's *Pastoral Symphony* by almost a quarter of a century. Knecht's older French contemporary Philidor was the leading chess player of his time in addition to being a popular stage composer, whose overtures reveal the influence of the Italian school in their sparkling drama.



Justin Heinrich  
**KNECHT**  
(1752-1817)



**1-5** Le Portrait musical de la Nature –  
Grande Simphonie (1785)

28:09

François-André Danican  
**PHILIDOR**  
(1726-1795)

**6-8** Le Jardinier et Son Seigneur – Overture (1761) 11:40

**9** Le Sorcier – Overture (1764) 8:14

**10** Tom Jones – Overture (1765) 7:19

**11-13** Le Maréchal-Ferrant – Overture (1761) 12:05

**Orchestra Filarmonica di Torino** **1-5**

Sergio Lamberto, Solo Violin **5**

**Prague Sinfonia Orchestra** **6-13**

**Christian Benda**



A detailed track list can be found inside the booklet.

Recorded at the Sala Concerti del Conservatorio Giuseppe Verdi, Torino, Italy, on 15th January, 2013 (tracks 1-5), and at Studio Domovina, Prague, Czech Republic, on 17th March, 2012 (tracks 6-13)

Producers: Silvio Germano Ricci (tracks 1-5), Kateřina Chobotová (tracks 6-13)

Engineers: Silvio Germano Ricci (tracks 1-5), Michael Rast (tracks 6-13)

Booklet notes: Keith Anderson • Cover: *Biberach* by Wolfgang Fischer (iStockphoto.com)