

So great was the effect of Sibelius's incidental music for Maeterlinck's play *Pelléas et Mélisande* that August Strindberg, whose wife had performed the role of Mélisande, agreed that he should write the music for his as-yet unperformed play *Svanevit* (Swanwhite). Composing for an orchestra of thirteen he wrote in a style reminiscent of Grieg, and both play and music were very well received by critics and audiences alike. The play *Ödlan* (The Lizard) inspired Sibelius with its dreamlike atmosphere, while *Ett ensamt skidspår* (A Lonely Ski Trail) and *Grevinnans konterfej* (The Countess' Portrait) show his skill in writing for drama on a miniature scale.

Jean  
**SIBELIUS**  
(1865-1957)

- |              |   |              |
|--------------|---|--------------|
| <b>1-14</b>  | <b>Svanevit (Swanwhite) –<br/>Complete Incidental Music, JS189 (1908)</b> | <b>29:29</b> |
| <b>15-16</b> | <b>Ödlan (The Lizard) –<br/>Complete Incidental Music, Op. 8 (1909)</b>   | <b>25:50</b> |
| <b>17</b>    | <b>Ett ensamt skidspår<br/>(A Lonely Ski Trail), JS77b (1948)</b>         | <b>3:45</b>  |
| <b>18</b>    | <b>Grevinnans konterfej<br/>(The Countess' Portrait), JS88 (1905)</b>     | <b>4:29</b>  |

**Riho Eklundh, Narrator** 17 18

**Turku Philharmonic Orchestra • Leif Segerstam**

A detailed track list can be found on page 2 of the booklet.

The Swedish sung texts and English translations can be found inside the booklet, and those for *Grevinnans konterfej* may also be accessed at [www.naxos.com/libretti/573341.htm](http://www.naxos.com/libretti/573341.htm)  
 Recorded at Turku Concert Hall, Turku, Finland, on 5th February, 2014 (tracks 1-14), 10th September, 2014 (tracks 15-16), 6th February, 2014 (track 17), and 24th January, 2014 (track 18)  
 Produced, engineered and edited by Sean Lewis • Booklet notes: Dominic Wells  
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Playing Time  
63:34



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