

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)

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

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

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)

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Playing Time
63:34



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