



DDD

8.573467

Playing Time
75:51

www.naxos.com

© 2014, 2015 & © 2015
Naxos Rights US, Inc.
Booklet notes in English
Made in Germany

Music in Armenia has a long and rich history, stretching back to the Middle Ages and beyond, with its origins in popular folk-songs. Towards the end of the nineteenth century these played a major rôle in the development of a national music identity and in the twentieth century Armenian composers began to establish an international reputation. The hypnotic simplicity of line and texture in the *Six Dances* by Komitas lay the foundations of a clearly defined national sound alongside the Tatar melodies which appear in Spendiarian's *Crimean Sketches*. Russian lyrical romanticism as well as Western influences colour the next generation's music, as do elements of impressionism and soulful jazz in the recent works of Robert Amirkhanian.

ARMENIAN PIANO MUSIC

- | | | |
|--------------|---|--------------|
| 11-16 | Komitas (Komitas Vardapet) (1869-1935):
Six Dances for Piano (1916) | 15:41 |
| 7-10 | Aleksandr Spendiarian (Spendiarov) (1871-1928):
Crimean Sketches (1903)*
Arno Babadjanian (1921-1983): | 10:00 |
| 11 | Prelude (1947) | 1:43 |
| 12 | Melody (1973) | 2:09 |
| 13 | Humoresque (1973) | 1:51 |
| 14 | Impromptu, 'Exprompt' (1936) | 2:39 |
| 15 | Vagharshapat Dance (1947) | 1:47 |
| 16 | Elegy (1978) | 4:06 |
| 17-20 | Eduard Abramian (1923-1986):
24 Preludes (1948-1972): Nos. 3, 6, 13 and 19* | 10:15 |
| 21-23 | Eduard Bagdasarian (1922-1987):
24 Preludes (1951-1958): Nos. 6, 9 and 24*
Robert Amirkhanian (b. 1939): | 8:11 |
| 24 | In Front of a Portrait (2009)* | 3:52 |
| 25 | Childrens' Images (2009)* | 8:21 |
| 26 | Spring Drops (2009)* | 5:15 |

***WORLD PREMIÈRE RECORDINGS**

Mikael Ayrapetyan, Piano

A detailed track list, recording information and publishers' details can be found on page 2 of the booklet.

Executive producer: Mikael Ayrapetyan • Producer: Anna Avdalyan • Engineer: Andrey Borisov

Piano: Steinway & Sons D 274 • Cover photograph by Armen Iskandaryan (Fotolia.com)