

Toshiro Mayuzumi was one of Japan's foremost 20th-century composers, enjoying a distinguished international reputation on a par with that of Toru Takemitsu, as well as that of an *enfant terrible* of the post-war Japanese music world. Versatile and prolific, he contributed music for films, the theatre, the 1964 Tokyo Olympics and broadcasts. His enthusiasm for avant-garde Western music led him to study in Paris, and the *Phonologie Symphonique* is a synthesis of Varèse-like acoustical experiment and serial techniques. The jazz-tinted *Bacchanale* is Mayuzumi's attempt to produce 'a cosmos of sounds reflecting the vital energies of the origin of music', and the symphonic poem *Samsara* is a musical expression of Buddhist teaching, an attempt to escape the seemingly endless cycle of birth and rebirth.

Toshiro
MAYUZUMI
 (1929–1997)

1	Phonologie Symphonique (1957)	9:35
2	Bacchanale (1953)	10:46
3	Samsara (1962)	22:34

Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra
 Yoshikazu Fukumura

Recorded: 25–29 March 1984 at Tsuen Wan Town Hall, Hong Kong

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