

American Percussion Works is a rare collection of seldom heard works each with specific rules or themes as a basis for the compositions. In John Cage's *First Construction* the principle is based on the figure 16. Alberto Ginastera's work *Cantata para América Mágica*, uses pre-Columbian texts based on the conditions of human life, with war, natural phenomena, daybreak, night and love. Lou Harrison mixes non-European forms which 'follow the pattern of having a single melodic part accompanied (or enhanced) by rhythmic percussion' in his *Koncherto*. Varèse's *Ionisation* also enters a new land being his first solely percussive work where 'he finds a new grammar for the language of music.'

AMERICAN PERCUSSION WORKS

CAGE | GINASTERA | HARRISON | VARÈSE

John Cage (1912–1992)	1	First Construction (in Metal) (1939) for 6 percussionists and 1 assistant	8:16
Alberto Ginastera (1916–1983)	2–7	Cantata para América Mágica, Op. 27 (1960) for dramatic soprano and percussion orchestra, on poems by Mercedes de Toro from ancient pre-Colombian texts	23:13
Lou Harrison (1917–2003)	8–10	Koncherto por la violino kun perkuta orkestro (1959)	19:15
Edgard Varèse (1883–1965)	11	Ionisation (1929–31) for 13 percussionists	5:38

RDAM's Percussion Ensemble PERCURAMA

Signe Asmussen, soprano 2–7
Niklas Walentin, violin 8–10
Jean Thorel, conductor



THE ROYAL
DANISH
ACADEMY OF MUSIC

Recorded: 6 March 2009 (live) (11), 9 March 2013 (8–10), 8–9 March 2014 (2–7) and 8 November 2015 (1)
Producers: Gert Mortensen and Niels Rosing-Schow
Engineers and editors: Franziska Wackerhagen and Gediminas Sudnikavičius
Mixing: Gediminas Sudnikavičius, Gert Mortensen and Mette Due
Booklet notes: Niels Rosing-Schow • Cover image: Mikkel Østergaard
Layout: Manila Design | Naxos

NAXOS

DDD

8.574244

Playing Time
55:56



© & © 2021 Naxos Rights (Europe) Ltd
Booklet notes in English / Booklettekster på dansk
Made in EU
Distributed by Naxos Global Logistics GmbH
www.naxosdirect.dk