



8.574336

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Playing Time
64:09Made in Germany
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Booklet notes in English

NAXOS

FOERSTER: Symphony No. 1 • From Shakespeare

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Josef Bohuslav Foerster was the successor to Dvořák as organist in Prague, a lifelong friend of Mahler, and a pivotal figure in Czech music, whose almost 200 compositions take in all the major genres. The three selected works here offer an overview of his orchestral music. Recalling several equally majestic pieces by Smetana, the arresting *Festive Overture* combines Czech flair with Viennese elegance, while *From Shakespeare* explores characterisation with warmth and resourceful orchestration. The early *Symphony No. 1 in D minor* offers a darkness-to-light trajectory suffused with rich mid-Romantic colours.

Josef Bohuslav
FOERSTER
(1859–1951)

Symphony No. 1
Festive Overture • From Shakespeare

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| 1 | Festive Overture, Op. 70 ('Slavnostní předehra') (1907) | 9:28 |
| | Symphony No. 1 in D minor, Op. 9 (1887–88) | 28:15 |
| 2 | I. Adagio – Allegro con brio | 10:01 |
| 3 | II. Andante sostenuto | 5:22 |
| 4 | III. Allegretto scherzando | 3:56 |
| 5 | IV. Allegro energico | 8:48 |
| | From Shakespeare, Op. 76 ('Ze Shakespeara') (1908–10) | 26:14 |
| 6 | Introduction: Andante moderato 'Zas, mrtvé postavy, mne oblétáte...' | 1:04 |
| 7 | I. Perdita: Allegro scherzando | 7:12 |
| 8 | II. Viola: Andante | 4:53 |
| 9 | III. Lady Macbeth: Andante sostenuto | 5:37 |
| 10 | IV. Katharina, Petruchio and Eros: Allegro energico | 7:19 |

Janáček Philharmonic Orchestra
Marek Štílek

Recorded: 6–7 January 2021 [1] [6]–[10], 19 and 22 March 2021 [2]–[5] at the House of Culture Ostrava, Czech Republic • Producer: Jiří Štílek • Engineer: Václav Roubal
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