

José Antônio de Almeida Prado was one of the most admired Brazilian composers of his time. The two stylistically diverse works featured on this album exemplify different creative periods in the composer's life. The prize-winning *Pequenos funerais cantantes*, which was Almeida Prado's breakthrough as a composer, is a lament full of unique soundworlds forged from different combinations of choral and orchestral writing. The superbly orchestrated *Sinfonia dos Orixás* takes as its subject the *Orishas* (deities in the Yoruba religion) – and is a personal tribute to the rich Afro-Brazilian religious traditions, a sumptuous melodic and rhythmic feast celebrating the forces of nature.



José Antônio de
ALMEIDA PRADO
(1943–2010)

1–8 **Pequenos funerais cantantes**
ao poeta Carlos Maria de Araújo
(‘Small Sung Obsequies
for the Poet Carlos Maria de Araújo’) (1969) 20:22

9–28 **Sinfonia dos Orixás**
(‘Symphony of the Orishas’) (1984–85) 49:56

Clarissa Cabral, Mezzo-soprano 7
Sabah Teixeira, Bass-baritone 6

São Paulo Symphony Choir 2–5 7

São Paulo Symphony Orchestra • Neil Thomson

The series *The Music of Brazil* is an initiative of the Brazilian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

A detailed track list can be found inside the booklet.

The Portuguese sung texts and English translations are included in the booklet,
and may also be accessed at www.naxos.com/libretti/574411.htm

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Playing Time
70:26



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