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Playing Time  
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Symphonic in scale and ambition, the incidental music to Shakespeare's play *The Tempest* was among the last orchestral works Sibelius composed before entering the mysterious 'silence of Järvenpää' that lasted until his death. Commissioned by leading Danish theatre producer Johannes Poulsen in 1925, the wide expressive demands of the play saw Sibelius calling on large musical forces. From the terrifying tone picture of the opening shipwreck via ethereal songs, boisterous character portraits and remarkable evocations of nature, Sibelius took full advantage of being set free to convert the themes of Shakespeare's magical world into his own unique sound.

## JEAN SIBELIUS (1865–1957)

### The Tempest JS 182 (Op. 109)

Incidental music to Shakespeare's play  
for soloists, chorus and orchestra

Hanne Fischer (Ariel) · Kari Dahl Nielsen (Juno)  
 Fredrik Bjellsäter (Stephano) · Palle Knudsen (Caliban)  
 Nicolai Elsberg (Trinculo)  
 The Royal Danish Opera Chorus · The Royal Danish Orchestra  
 Okko Kamu, conductor

A detailed tracklist can be found inside the booklet  
 Live recording: 10 October 2021 at the Opera House, Copenhagen, Denmark  
 Producer: Morten Mogensen · Recording and mixing: Peter Bo Nielsen  
 Editing and mastering: Sebastian Eskildsen  
 Booklet notes: Valdemar Lønsted · English translation: John Irons  
 Artist photos: Nathascha Thiara Rydvald, Camilla Winther, Kaapo Kamu  
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