

CARL NIELSEN: THE SYMPHONIES

The Royal Danish Orchestra's performing history stretches back to 1448, making it the oldest orchestra in the world, with Carl Nielsen counted amongst its distinguished former members. His 16 years of experience as one of the orchestra's second violinists helped shape him as a composer, and it was this ensemble that introduced his symphonies to the world. From the 'imminent storm of genius' of the First Symphony to the disarming outlandishness of the Sixth, Nielsen's symphonies are recognised as among the greatest in their genre, heard here in recordings made with a league of conductors whose bond with Denmark and Nielsen's music is second to none.

CD 1

Symphony No. 1

Thomas Søndergård

Live recording: 24 August 2022 at the Royal Danish Opera, Copenhagen, Denmark

Symphony No. 2 *The Four Temperaments*

Alexander Vedernikov

Live recording: 4 September 2020 at the Royal Danish Opera, Copenhagen, Denmark

CD 2

Symphony No. 3 *Sinfonia Espansiva*

Ruth Guldbæk, Soprano · Niels Møller, Tenor

Leonard Bernstein

Recorded: 16 May 1965 at the Odd Fellow Palace, Copenhagen, Denmark

Symphony No. 4 *The Inextinguishable*

Sir Simon Rattle

Live recording: 2 February 2013 at DR Concert Hall, Copenhagen, Denmark

CD 3

Symphony No. 5

Michael Boder

Live recording: 11 September 2015 at the Royal Danish Opera, Copenhagen, Denmark

Symphony No. 6 *Sinfonia semplice*

Paavo Berglund

Recorded: 17–19 August 1989 at the Odd Fellow Palace, Copenhagen, Denmark

Bonus CD

Concerto for Clarinet and Orchestra

John Kruse, Clarinet

Alexander Vedernikov

Live recording: 4 September 2020 at the Royal Danish Opera, Copenhagen, Denmark

Overture to Maskarade

Michael Schønwandt

Live recording: 13 & 15 November 2006 at the Royal Danish Opera, Copenhagen, Denmark

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