

Josef Bohuslav Foerster was a pivotal figure in Czech musical history and a lifelong friend of fellow German-speaking Bohemian, Gustav Mahler. Foerster's *Symphony No. 2*, dedicated to the memory of his sister, Marie, achieves a satisfying unity, with its sombre qualities eloquently transformed into a fervent apotheosis. *Cyrano de Bergerac* was Foerster's most successful orchestral piece and is a perfect example of his late-Romantic finesse. Conceived as an autonomous work not intended as incidental music, its 'five symphonic images' each relates to a specific place in the drama.

Josef Bohuslav
FOERSTER
(1859–1951)

Symphony No. 2 in F major, Op. 29 (1892–93) 35:44

- | | | |
|---|-----------------------|-------|
| 1 | I. Allegro moderato | 10:56 |
| 2 | II. Andante sostenuto | 7:56 |
| 3 | III. Allegro | 5:33 |
| 4 | IV. Allegro con brio | 11:19 |

Cyrano de Bergerac, Op. 55 (1903) 31:47

- | | | |
|---|-------------------------------|------|
| 5 | I. Andante con moto | 6:35 |
| 6 | II. Andante sostenuto | 3:24 |
| 7 | III. Allegro – Tempo di Valse | 6:01 |
| 8 | IV. Allegro deciso | 9:55 |
| 9 | V. Andante sostenuto | 5:52 |

Hradec Králové Philharmonic Orchestra
Marek Štílec

Recorded: 25 [5]–[7], 26 [8] [9], 27 [1] [2] and 28 [3] [4] March 2024

at the Hradec Králové Philharmonic House, Czech Republic

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Playing Time
67:45



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