

The distinguished Japanese composer, Toshio Hosokawa, has been honoured with numerous awards as well as a steady stream of commissions and acclaimed performances. As with many of Hosokawa's concertos, *Ceremony* sees the flute soloist as a 'person' and the orchestra as the 'universe and nature' – the flautist's breath echoing like the winds of nature and becoming a song that awakens the spirits. A complimentary work to Hosokawa's *The Raven* (Naxos 8.573724), *Futari Shizuka – The Maiden from the Sea* is a single-act opera, the ancient tragic tale of which resonates with the fate of refugees around the world today.

Toshio HOSOKAWA

(b. 1955)

Ceremony for flute and orchestra (2021–22) 23:35

- ① **I. Introduction:** ♪ = c. 40 (flute) – II. ♪ = c. 40 (alto flute, flute) – III. ♪ = c. 60 (piccolo, flute)
– IV. Cadenza: ♪ = c. 60 (flute) – V. Final Chapter – Purification: ♪ = c. 52 (flute)

Mario Caroli, Flute, Piccolo, Alto Flute

Futari Shizuka – The Maiden from the Sea (2017) 42:01

Opera in one act • Libretto by Toshio Hosokawa
based on original Japanese texts by Oriza Hirata (b. 1962)

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|---|--|------|
| ② | Prelude: Sorrow Sea | 5:45 |
| ③ | Where do I come from? – I was floating in the ocean... (<i>Helen</i>) | 4:21 |
| ④ | Who is there? (<i>Helen, Shizu</i>) | 4:00 |
| ⑤ | Is that a poem or a song? (<i>Helen, Shizu</i>) | 5:58 |
| ⑥ | Stop... Hang on (<i>Helen, Shizu</i>) | 7:18 |
| ⑦ | Dance | 2:59 |
| ⑧ | I was with child... (<i>Helen, Shizu</i>) | 5:10 |
| ⑨ | Where do I come from? – Far across the ocean, there is war... (<i>Helen</i>) | 6:30 |

Helen, a young woman Ilse Eerens, Soprano
Shizu, Lady Shizuka Gozen Ryoko Aoki, Noh Singer

WORLD PREMIERE RECORDINGS

Residentie Orkest The Hague • Jun Märkl

Booklet notes in Japanese can be accessed online at www.naxos.com/notes/574656.htm • The Japanese libretto and an English translation are included in the booklet, and may also be accessed at www.naxos.com/574656.htm

Recorded: 14–17 March 2024 at the Concertzaal, Amare, The Hague, Netherlands

Producer and editor: Andrew Walton (K&A Productions Ltd) • Engineer: Deborah Spanton (K&A Productions Ltd)

Booklet notes: Toshio Hosokawa • Publisher: Schott Music • Cover photo: Fedor Selivanov (www.shutterstock.com)

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8.574656

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Playing Time
65:46



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Made in Germany

Booklet notes in English

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