

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.



8.574656

DDD

Playing Time
65:46

Toshio HOSOKAWA (b. 1955)

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

① I. Introduction: $\text{♩} = \text{c. 40}$ (flute) – II. $\text{♩} = \text{c. 40}$ (alto flute, flute) – III. $\text{♩} = \text{c. 60}$ (piccolo, flute)
– IV. Cadenza: $\text{♩} = \text{c. 60}$ (flute) – V. Final Chapter – Purification: $\text{♩} = \text{c. 52}$ (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)

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

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