



8.660426-27

DDD

Playing Time
1:45:27

www.naxos.com

Made in Germany

© & © 2021 Naxos Rights (Europe) Ltd
Booklet notes and synopsis in English

The music of Iranian composer Behzad Abdi fuses *dastgāh* (the Iranian modal system) with Western classical forms. He wrote Iran's first national opera, *Rumi* (Naxos 8.660424-25), and *Hafez* also exemplifies his approach to the medium. The opera's subject is the great Persian poet and mystic Hafez, whose sonnets and poetry are still widely read across the Persian-speaking world today. Behrouz Gharibpour's libretto traces the poet's tribulations, memories of keeping his poems from being destroyed by a despotic government, and subsequent exile. Abdi's polytonal technique serves to reflect the unique concepts of Hafez's 14th-century poetry with passion, lyricism and power.

Behzad ABDI

(b. 1973)

Hafez (2013)

Opera in two acts

Libretto by Behrouz Gharibpour (b. 1950)

Hafez Mohammad Motamedi, Tenor
Obeid Zakani Hossein Alishapour, Tenor
Sultan Mobarezedin Babak Sabouri, Baritone
Poet / Khayyam Eshaq Anvar, Tenor
Mohammad Gol-andam ... Mohammad Zakerhossein, Tenor
Farmer Ali Zandevakili, Tenor
Shakh-e Nabat Haleh Seyfizadeh, Mezzo-soprano

Credo Chamber Choir • Bogdan Plish

National Symphony Orchestra of Ukraine • Vladimir Sirenko

WORLD PREMIERE RECORDING

CD 1

1-9 Act I

53:12 CD 2

1-7 Act II

52:15

A full track and cast list can be found inside the booklet.

The Persian libretto can be accessed at www.naxos.com/libretti/660426.htm

Recorded: 12 February 2014 at Dom Zvukozapisi (The House of Recording), Kyiv, Ukraine

Producer: Alexander Hornostai • Engineer: Andrii Mokritskyi

Editors: Andrii Mokritskyi, Hamid Adab • Edition: Composer's manuscript

Cover: *Hafez* (1970) by Abolhassan Sadighi (1894–1995)