

NAXOS  
ADAMS: I was looking at the ceiling...  
8.669003-04

Playing  
Time:  
**1:55:59**

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# I was looking at the ceiling and then I saw the sky (1995)

Song Play in Two Acts

Music by John Adams (b. 1947)

Libretto by June Jordan (1936-2002)

Consuelo ..... Martina Mühlpointner  
Dewain ..... Kimako Xavier Trotman  
Rick ..... Markus Alexander Neisser  
Leila ..... Jeannette Friedrich  
David ..... Darius de Haas  
Tiffany ..... Lilith Gardell  
Mike ..... Jonas Holst

Young Opera Company Freiburg

The Band of Holst-Sinfonietta

Klaus Simon

CD 1

CD 2

**1-15 Act One** 72:37 **1-9 Act Two** 43:22

Recorded at Tonstudio Oase, Freiburg-Wolfenweiler, Germany, from 28th January to 1st February, and at Tonstudio R, Vienna, Austria, on 21st April 2004.  
Produced and engineered by Andreas Bertram and Felix Dreher.

Publisher: Hendon Music, Inc. (BMI),  
a Boosey & Hawkes Company.

Cover picture: *Sky with Green Frame*  
by Bonnie Rieser  
(Photodisc Green / Getty Images)  
American flag, folk artist, 1880s.



AMERICAN OPERA CLASSICS

Scored for a "rock band" of voices, clarinet, saxophone, keyboards, guitar, bass and percussion, John Adams' *I was looking at the ceiling and then I saw the sky*, ranges in style from gospel and jazz to rock and pop. A combination of social criticism and love story, it chronicles the life of seven young Los Angelesans of different social and ethnic backgrounds, whose everyday speech patterns have been skilfully woven into a lyrical libretto by the late writer and civil rights champion June Jordan. John Adams' post-minimalist musical language shines through the popular music disguise.

Booklet notes and synopsis in English  
Kommentar und Inhaltsangabe auf Deutsch

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